Development Services

From Concept to Construction

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APPEAL SUMMARY	
Status: Decision Rendered	
Appeal ID: 14928	Project Address: 2625 SE 67th Ave
Hearing Date: 4/12/17	Appellant Name: Jeffrey Kelly
Case No.: B-018	Appellant Phone: 9253609949
Appeal Type: Building	Plans Examiner/Inspector: Preliminary
Project Type: residential	Stories: 2 Occupancy: Residential Construction Type: Type 5
Building/Business Name:	Fire Sprinklers: No
Appeal Involves: Alteration of an existing structure	LUR or Permit Application No.:
Plan Submitted Option: pdf [File 1] [File 2]	Proposed use: Residential

APPEAL INFORMATION SHEET

Appeal item 1

Code Section	R311.7
Requires	Stairways shall not be less than 36" in clear width at all points above the permitted handrail height and below the the required headroom height.
Proposed Design	The existing stairway measures 28-1/2" wide above the handrail height and below the required headroom height. The wall covering is lathe and plaster, which has a material thickness of 7/8". The proposal is for the lathe and plaster to be removed and replaced with 3/8" gypsum board. This will result in a stairway width of 29-1/2".
	Brochure 9 states that a stairway measuring 30" wide can be grandfathered in. If during construction it is discovered that the stairway can be widened to 30" by removal of the existing wa covering and an application of a thinner code approved wall covering, that is the course we will take.
Reason for alternative	This alternative is required in order to proceed with the addition of a dormer to the second floor and conversion of the attic space to living area. The attic currently has a room that meets the requirements for a habitable space. By adding the dormer and bathroom the house will increase its occupancy. This change will improve the existing accessibility.
	By allowing this proposal the structural opening of the stairway can be maintained and the adjacent rooms will not have to be impacted. There is no room to expand as the adjacent rooms are the kitchen and the bedroom closet. The adjustment to the closet would greatly reduce its function and the kitchen side is not an option either.





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Requires	The maximum riser height shall be 8" and the greatest riser height shall not exceed the smallest by more than 3/8". The minimum tread depth shall be 9" and the greatest tread depth within any
	flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest by more than 3/8".
Proposed Design	The existing stair risers vary in height. The first riser is 7-1/2" then the following range from 9 to
	9-1/4" for the next 9 risers. The following riser is 8 3/4" then the final riser is 9-1/2". The treads range from 9" to 9-1/4".
	The proposal is to allow the existing stairway to remain as built and be grandfathered in for the
	dormer project and attic conversion. If this is not acceptable the proposal is to re-build the stairs
	within the existing stair opening. By re-framing within the existing footprint of the stairs the new
	risers would be approximately 8-15/16" and the new treads would be approximately 9-1/4". These
	new treads and risers meet the grandfathered in requirements outlined in Brochure 9.
Reason for alternative	The alternate is required to maintain the existing structural locations and not impact the existing
	first floor in a negative capacity. By grandfathering in the existing stair proportions the project can
	proceed without affecting the adjacent rooms. If the project calls for the stairs to be reframed then
	the new stairs can meet grandfathered in code but not current code without extending past the
	existing footprint, which would disrupt the circulation path in the living room.
	If required, the stairs can be made to meet grandfathered in code. This would improve the
	accessibility and life safety of the conversion project.

2. Tread and riser variation exceeds 3/8 inch: Denied. Appellant may contact Dave Tebeau (503-823-6802) for additional information.

Pursuant to City Code Chapter 24.10, you may appeal this decision to the Building Code Board of Appeal within 180 calendar days of the date this decision is published. For information on the appeals process and costs, including forms, appeal fee, payment methods and fee waivers, go to www.portlandoregon.gov/bds/appealsinfo, call (503) 823-7300 or come in to the Development Services Center.























