Development Services

From Concept to Construction

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APPEAL SUMMARY

Status: Decision Rendered

Appeal ID: 27617 Project Address: 204 NW 22nd Pl Hearing Date: 3/30/22 Appellant Name: Chris Davis Case No.: B-008 Appellant Phone: 503-281-5282 Appeal Type: Building Plans Examiner/Inspector: Preliminary Project Type: residential Stories: 3 Occupancy: SFR Construction Type: Wood Frame **Building/Business Name:** Fire Sprinklers: No Appeal Involves: Alteration of an existing structure LUR or Permit Application No.: Plan Submitted Option: pdf [File 1] Proposed use: single family residence

APPEAL INFORMATION SHEET

Appeal item 1

Code Section R311.7.5.1 Risers

Requires The riser height shall not be more than 8".

Code Modification or A riser height of 8 3/4" is proposed.

Alternate Requested

Proposed Design A riser height of 8 3/4" is proposed.

Reason for alternative The existing stairway leading up from the exterior side door landing to the main floor is currently dangerous and not to code. The existing headroom is 5'-8 1/4" at its lowest point, and the existing treads are 7 3/4" deep. By shifting the stairway to the south and removing one riser, we are able to increase the headroom to 6'-2", and increase the tread depth to 9". Due to the stair running between the fixed elevations at the existing exterior door and the main finished floor level of the house, we will need to increase the riser height to 8 3/4" in order to make these improvements possible. The stair will lose headroom beneath the main stairway of the house if it expands to the north, and will encroach upon a hallway if it increases to the south. The proposed design provides an equivalent life-safety to what code requires because it is less than the maximum 9" riser height allowed by brochure #9.

Appeal item 2

Code Section R311.7.2 Headroom

Requires The headroom in stairways shall be not less than 6 feet 8 inches measured vertically from the

sloped line adjoining the tread nosing or from the floor surface of the landing or platform on that

portion of the stairway.

Code Modification or Alternate Requested	A headroom clearance of 6'-2" minimum is proposed.
Proposed Design	A headroom clearance of 6'-2" minimum is proposed.
Reason for alternative	As mentioned above, the existing stairway leading up from the exterior side door landing to the main floor is currently dangerous and not to code. The existing headroom is 5'-8 1/4" at its lowest point, and the existing treads are 7 3/4" deep. By shifting the stairway to the south and removing one riser, we are able to increase the headroom to 6'-2", and increase the tread depth to 9". The proposed design provides an equivalent life-safety to what code requires because it is equivalent to the headroom clearance allowed by brochure #9.

APPEAL DECISION

- 1. Increase in maximum allowable riser height from 8 inches to 8.75 inches: Granted as proposed.
- 2. Decrease in minimum allowable headroom from 6 feet 8 inches to 6 feet 2 inches: Granted as proposed.

The Administrative Appeal Board finds that the information submitted by the appellant demonstrates that the approved modifications or alternate methods are consistent with the intent of the code; do not lessen health, safety, accessibility, life, fire safety or structural requirements; and that special conditions unique to this project make strict application of those code sections impractical.

Pursuant to City Code Chapter 24.10, you may appeal this decision to the Building Code Board of Appeal within 90 calendar days of the date this decision is published. For information on the appeals process, go to www.portlandoregon.gov/bds/appealsinfo, call (503) 823-7300 or come in to the Development Services Center.



