



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Michael G. Lewis
Director of Public Works / City Engineer

414/302-8360
414/302-8366 (Fax)

City Hall
7525 West Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

www.westalliswi.gov
mlewis@westalliswi.gov

Memorandum

TO: Board of Public Works

FROM: Michael Lewis, Director of Public Works/City Engineer

DATE: August 20, 2013

RE: **Communication from Director of Public Works/City Engineer regarding an appeal of a driveway approach denial.**

Attached is some related information regarding this denial and Mr. Cha's appeal. We think what they really want is an additional parking area along side their home more than anything else. If the Board is looking at granting the request, it should be tied to the garage issue. If they do demolish their old garage, turn it to face 98th Street and eliminate access off the alley (basically the same situation as the one off of 76th and Beloit), then we can issue the permit under the current policy. Otherwise, and keep consistent with past actions, the vote should be to uphold the denial.



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April 25, 2013

Aly Cha
2539 S. 98th St.
West Allis, WI. 53227

Denial of Driveway Approach Application

Dear Aly Cha:

We regret to inform you that the City of West Allis Engineering Division will not be able to issue you a permit for a driveway approach off of S. 98th St. at 2539 S. 98th St. The reason for the denial is as follows:

- This property has access to a public alley. The Policy that we follow for driveway permits states that *'it is the policy of the City that alleys, when present, should be utilized for access instead of new driveways.'*

Sincerely,

Brian D. Block
Traffic & Utility Technician

Aly Cha/Tser Cha
2539 S. 98th St.
West Allis, WI 53227

July 26, 2013

City Hall
7525 W. Greenfield Ave
West Allis, WI 53214

To The Administration Board of Appeal/Public Works Committee:

We would like to appeal the decision that was made regarding my Driveway Approach Permit Application. The decision on my application was deny due to public alley access. There are many reasons why we would like to pursue having a drive way on our property. Please see our reasons.

We are asking for a driveway approach permit due to the following reasons:


1. All our neighbors on 98th street have drive ways even if the neighbors on our side of the street have public alley access. Our neighbors have enclosed fence in their back yard and we would like to do the same for ours. We would like to improve our property by landscaping it as well.
2. Every winter, when there is a snow storm, we worry about parking on the street due to snow storm emergencies and we need to clear off the streets. In the back alley, every time the truck plows snow, they always plow the snow to our side of the alley due to our garage is the only one there. This benefits our neighbors but not us.
3. We are one neighbor that has 2 cars parking on the streets during night time and our neighbor does not really like it due to that during the winter, our neighbors would receive the remaining snow plows on their drive way. We have had complaints from our neighbors in the past and will continue to have it in the future if we don't have a drive way.
4. We have had thieves around our neighbors and they have stolen things from our garage and cars before due to our garage turning away from our home.
5. Our property has become a public walk way through our yard. Also, we are the only neighbors on our block, which does not have a side drive but we have a walk way through and this creates an atmosphere for thieves to run or hide in.
6. We would like to have our property more secure by having our garage turned towards the front with a driveway furthermore it provide more space for our family to properly park our cars during the night and/or day time.
7. We like to remain in our home for a very long time and would appreciate the opportunity to better enhance the property.
8. We have been paying for night parking ticket for two cars ever since our oldest daughter received her driver's license (8 yrs ago) plus we have 4 young drivers.

9. Our current garage is cracked from the inside floor concrete and all the sides. The roofing and door also needs to be updated because the garage door is too low for our SUV.
10. We would just love it if we could demolish the old garage and rise up the garage and turn it towards the front of our home or built an attach garage just like our neighbors.

To invest for repairing the old one, we would like to ask the Engineer Department/ Administration Board/Public Works Committee to please review our property and the neighborhood around us to consider our request. We ask nothing more but just want to improve our community and all the code violations on our property.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Aly Cha/Tser Cha



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April 25, 2013

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Sincerely,

Brian D. Block
Traffic & Utility Technician

Communication from Director of Public Works/City Engineer regarding a driveway permit for 2636 South 76th Street.

Motion by Ald. Roadt to amend that no vehicular access to property from alley will be allowed after installation of drive from frontage road. Motion seconded by Ald. Czaplewski.

A motion was made by Ald. Roadt, seconded by Ald. Czaplewski, that this matter be Recommended for Approval as Amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Ald. Weigel, Ald. Czaplewski, Ald. Reinke and Ald. Roadt
No: 0

June 14, 2013

The Honorable Mayor Dan Devine
and Members of the Common Council
7525 West Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214

RE: Driveway Permit for 2636 South 76th Street.

Dear Mayor Devine and Common Council Members:

The property owner at 2636 South 76th Street recently received a yard variance from the Board of Appeals for a new garage. The attached garage would be on the south side of the house (See attached map). Therefore, the property owner has requested a new driveway permit onto the frontage road adjacent to 76th Street/Beloit Road. Subsection 5.2.2 of Section 2801 of the Policies and Procedures Manual states, in part, that "It is the policy of the City that alleys, when present, should be utilized for access instead of new driveways." The owner wants to maintain the driveway off the alley (basically a carport) and needs a new driveway for the new garage, which would violate current policy.

Every driveway is considered a mini-intersection, with the usual conflict points that may cause an accident. The intent of this P&P is to minimize these conflict points as much as possible and encourage the use of an alley. We agree with the P&P, but told the owner we would present this situation to the Board for their consideration.

This is a frontage road, with very low traffic volumes. What little traffic that exists is probably 99% local. Therefore, we don't think it's a huge issue if the Board would approve the request.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Lewis
DPW/City Engineer