| 1 | Barbara Dykes Ehrlichman, Deputy Hearing Examiner |
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| 5 | BEFORE THE HEARING EXAMINER CITY OF SEATTLE |
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| 8 | In the Matter of the Appeal by) Hearing Examiner Files:) MUP-19-019 and MUP-19-020 |
| 9 | Neighbors to Mirra Homes Developments) SDCI Reference 3032834-LU / 3032833-LU |
| 10 | from Decisions Issued by the Director) |
| 11 | of the Seattle Department of (Construction and Inspections (Construction and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection (Construction and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection (Construction and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection (Construction and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection (Construction and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection (Construction and Inspection and Inspection and Inspection (Construction and Inspection (Construction and Inspection and Inspection (Construction and Inspection |
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| 14 | Reply to the Opposition for the Relief Requested |
| 15 | In response to the Applicants' and Owner's responses in Opposition to the Appellants' |
| 16 | Motion for Extension of Time, please note the following: |
| 17 | a) Mr. Moehring was straightforward at the pre-hearing about both the potential |
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| 19 | impacts if public records were not made available if there was a request for Summary |
| 20 | Judgement. The Applicant did not commit at the pre-hearing if there was going to be |
| 21 | a motion of Summary Judgement, Motion to Dismiss, or both. Mr. Moehring clearly |
| 22 | stated that evidence from the public records request would not be needed if it was |
| 23 | simply a Motion to Dismiss. Evidence would be needed in order to adequately reply |
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| 25 | to a Motion for Summary Judgment. The Appellants have the right for a fair hearing. |
| 26 | There has been no request for a new date of the scheduled hearing. The Applicant's |
| 27 | suggestion that there is no compelling reason to grant the sufficient response time in |
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order to provide necessary evidence from the Department (a Party to this appeal) is insulting.

- b) In response, the Hearing Examiner requested at the pre-hearing that the Department look into a timely responses to the public records requests; and the Department affirmed. The affirmation, however, did not result in the public records being received in a timely manner.
- c) Contrary to the reply in opposition, the April 30 public records request were not broad and were specific to the two Subject Properties. There is nothing new about public record requests for project-specific developments from City Departments. This public records request was not any more extensive in scope of requested information than any other project-specific request as limited by RCW42.56.
- d) SDOT has determined there was a need for two installments. There is every reason to believe that both installments may yield relative evidence as it may pertain to the short-plat decision criteria of retaining maximum amount of the existing street trees and as it may pertain to the existing unimproved alley within the SDOT right-of-way.
- e) Given two of the appealed criteria involve SDOT as indicated in the prior argument, any records of street improvement permits are very relevant to this land use appeal. The decision clearly states that the Director has consulted with all relevant parties, for which SDOT is relevant.

¹ Reference the content of the Public Records requests for digital (no paper copies) of architectural and consultant documents and correspondence involving parties of the appeal and this collective development. Given this same applicant and owner has also submitted an application to the same SDCI Planner for the adjacent property to the north (3422 23rd Avenue West) – with all three properties included within the same geotechnical report – and with all three properties seeking the same short plat subdivision – the additional amount of files to be searched will be largely redundant and not be a cause for a significant amount of time beyond 30 days as required by code.

- f) As stated in the motion, a response for records on or about June 21 with evidence being submitted within one business day by the current deadline of June 24 is not reasonable by any standard. The Applicant's reply statement has no merit.
- g) Similarly, as later noted in the Applicant's reply (page 5, line 21), a response for records on or about June 18 with evidence being submitted within four business days by the current deadline of June 24 is not reasonable and, again, the Applicant's reply statement has no merit.
- h) The reply to the motion is similarly flawed by the Applicant suggesting that the Fire Department is not involved with short subdivisions. A criteria of the Short Plat states that "Pursuant to SMC 23.24.040, the Director shall, after conferring with appropriate officials, use the following criteria to determine whether to grant, condition, or deny a short plat." (Emphasis Added). Given one of the appealed criteria was to consider that all newly created lots have access for emergency vehicles, conferring with the Seattle Fire Department for new lots with the only access via an unimproved dead-end alley was a must. The Applicant is confusing the non-appealable Type I decisions of the building with the Type II appealable decisions relative to the application of the criteria. Again, this Applicant's reply statement has no merit.
- i) Similarly, the Declarations of the Owner Representative is without merit. First, the Owner is simply making a non-expert declaration for which they are not qualified to represent. Second, the document they attached to their Declarations indeed indicates that a "Fire" review was "Due on 06/24/2019" (or next week), but the Department has "Marked as Not Required on 06/04/2019". So in fact, a review was required and, by

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the criteria of the short plat for emergency access to lots proposed for a subdivision, the Department erroneously did not follow that criteria as this declaration document so conveys as evidence in favor of the Appellants. Other reviews by other officials are shown to have been erroneously marked as "Not Required" following a similar due date of 06/18/2019 and 06/24/19". This is further evidence Director did not confer with "appropriate officials" to use the "criteria to determine whether to grant, condition, or deny a short plat." Perhaps the Records Request process has been difficult for the City in that there are no records in existence, thereby confirming the anticipated neglect identified in the appeal.

In contrast to the above described Declarations of the Owner Representative, we find that the declaration of the Applicant land surveyor Andy McAndrews is contradicting itself indicating that a review was not required, but indeed the Attachment A proves that is was required and that the review comment was recorded on November 1, 2019. The fire department's recorded concern contradicts the above statements in the Owner's Declaration, thereby confirming the Appellant's significance in the public records request between SDCI and the Fire Department. The Attachment item 4 even states "if the approved fire apparatus access road does not meet the distance requirements set forth in SFC Section 503.1.1." The 'access road' pertains to the criteria of the short plat as indicated in the appeal. So in fact, a review was provided in part and, by the criteria of the short plat for emergency access to lots proposed for a subdivision, the Department erroneously did not follow that criteria as this declaration document so conveys as evidence in favor of the Appellants. To even further complicate the matter, the Appellant has received a few days ago from the Public

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Records of the Fire Department in response to the records request that they are unable to respond because the Fire Department has no records for the 3 adjacent properties. Some city entity is evidently not being truthful or are making erroneous comments, perhaps in attempt to protect the City's interests.

- k) Contrary to the Applicant's statement (Page 5, line 6), the Fire Marshall's Office does indeed have at least one document that is relevant to the criteria issues raised in the Appeal.
- 1) Finally, the Applicant's reply to the Motion is misleading or erroneous stating that the Appellants have "already been granted twice the standard time allowed under the HER to respond to the *motion to dismiss*." (Emphasis added). As indicated in the prehearing recordings, the two weeks was not required for a Motion to Dismiss. To the contrary, Mr. Moehring clearly stated that more than one week would be required if a Motion for Summary Judgement was filed due to the need to collect and present evidence, unlike that in a simple Motion to Dismiss. Since the evidence has not been made available, failure you extending the reply to a Summary Judgment motion would be unfair proceedings.
- m) The Applicant has raised no specific or unique objections to the Appellant requests that the due date for the Preliminary Lists of Exhibits and Witnesses also be postponed accordingly by one week. Hence, the merits for the motion for an extension of time by one week stand as demonstrated by the arguments presented above.

| 1 | Dated this 19th day of June 2019. |
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| 2 | Respectfully submitted, |
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| 5 | David Moehring, |
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| 7 | Neighbors to Mirra Homes Developments, 3444B 23rd Avenue West |
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| 2 | Certificate of Service |
| 3 | I, David Moehring, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that |
| 4 | on this date I sent true and correct copies, via e-mail, of the attached Neighbors to Mirra Homes |
| 5 | Developments Appellant Reply to the Opposition of the Motion for an Extension of Time to Reply to Summary Judgement Motion to every person listed below, in the matter of the Short |
| 6 | Plat Subdivisions, Hearing Examiner File No. MUP-19-019 and MUP-19-020. |
| 7 | Department: David Landry |
| 8 | Seattle Department of Construction & Inspections |
| 9 | PO Box 34109 Email: david.landry@seattle.gov |
| 10 | Applicant: |
| 11 | Brooke Friedlander |
| 12 | Mirra Homes 11624 SE 5th St Suite 210 |
| 13 | Bellevue, WA 98005 |
| 14 | Email: <u>brooke.friedlander@mirrahomes.com</u> |
| 15 | Applicant Legal Counsel: Brandon S. Gribben |
| 16 | Samuel M. Jocobs |
| 17 | Helsell Fetterman LLP |
| 18 | 1001 Fourth Avenue, Ste 4200 Seattle, WA 98154 |
| | Phone: (206) 292-1144 |
| 19 | Email: <u>bgribben@helsell.com</u> |
| 20 | Office of the Hearing Examiner: |
| 21 | City of Seattle Seattle, WA 98124 |
| 22 | hearing.examiner@Seattle.gov |
| 23 | Dated June 19, 2019 |
| 24 | David Machaina |
| 25 | David Moehring Appellant Representative, Neighbors to Mirra Homes Developments |
| 26 | 3444B 23rd Ave West Seattle WA 98199 |
| 27 | Scalife WA 70177 |
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