Process for Requests for REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

Policy:
Effective Date: April 3, 1998. It is the policy of the City of San Jose to provide reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities seeking fair access to housing in the application of its zoning laws, policies, and processes. A person with disabilities is someone who has a “physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of such person’s major life activities.” Laws, which protect persons with disabilities against discrimination, include within their protection, persons who are recovering from addictions to alcohol or narcotics so long as they are not currently using the substances.

Process:
If no other land use permit is required, you may submit a request for Reasonable Accommodation directly to the Development Services Center at 200 E. Santa Clara St. 2nd floor. Staff can FAX you a copy of the application by calling the Planning Division at 408-535-3555. If a land use permit is also required, then the request for Reasonable Accommodation should be submitted concurrently with the land use permit (e.g., Conditional Use Permit). When submitted concurrently, the procedure will be the same as for the land use permit and you should refer to the land use permit application for the appropriate procedures, including noticing and hearing. Typically, such permits require an appointment for submittal.

Procedure:
1. The applicant submits a Request for Reasonable Accommodation along with associated application fee.
2. Within thirty (30) days of the application, a Notice of Decision will be issued by the Director of Planning and mailed to the applicant, adjacent property owners/occupants and any requesting party. During the thirty day time-frame, additional information may be requested by staff and a site visit may be scheduled.
3. Within ten (10) days of the Notice of Decision being mailed, any person may make a request in writing for a Director’s Hearing. If no request is received, then the decision of the Director of Planning will be final.
4. If a hearing is requested, such hearing will take place at the next reasonably available Director’s Hearing. Director’s Hearings are scheduled every Wednesday (except for the first Wednesday of the month) in the City Council Chambers at 9:00 a.m. The Director shall issue a decision granting the request, including any reasonable conditions, or denying the request and include the Director’s factual findings, conclusions and reasons for the decision. The decision will be mailed to the applicant and adjacent property owners and/or occupants.
5. Within thirty (30) days of the Notice of the Director’s decision, any person may appeal in writing to the Planning Commission. Any such appeal should be mailed to the Planning Commission in care of the Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement. All appeals shall contain a statement of the grounds for appeal.
6. The Planning Commission shall hold a Public Hearing on the appeal. Planning Commission public hearings are held approximately two (2) Wednesday evening per month at 6:30 p.m. The decision of the Planning Commission shall be final. Copies of the resolution of the Planning Commission decision will be sent to the applicant, the appealing party, and any adjacent property owners and occupants.

See page 2 for a flowchart of the Process.

Grounds for Reasonable Accommodation:
In making a determination regarding the reasonableness of a requested accommodation, the following factors shall be considered:

- Special needs created by the disability
- Potential benefit that can be accomplished by the requested modification
- Potential impact on surrounding uses
- Physical attributes of the property and structures
- Alternative accommodations which may provide an equivalent level of benefit
- In the case of a determination involving a single family dwelling, whether the household would be considered a single housekeeping unit if it were not using special services that are required because of the disabilities of the residents
- Whether the requested accommodation would impose an undue financial or administrative burden on the City
Definitions:
The following definitions (Chapter 20.200) may be helpful to review prior to applying for a Reasonable Accommodation Request:

**Dwelling, one family** or one-family dwelling is a detached building of permanent character placed in a permanent location which is designed or used for residential occupancy by one family. A single mobilhome on a foundation system on a single lot is included within this definition. All rooms within a one-family dwelling must be integral to each other.

**Family** is one or more persons occupying a premises and living as a Single Housekeeping Unit.

**Residential Care Facility** is a facility licensed by the State of California where care, services, or treatment is provided to persons living in a community residential setting.

**Residential Service Facility** is a residential facility, other than a Residential Care Facility or a Single Housekeeping Unit, where the operator receives compensation for the provision of personal services, in addition to housing, including but not limited to, protection, supervision, assistance, guidance, training, therapy or other non-medical care.

**Single Housekeeping Unit** is the functional equivalent of a traditional family; whose members are a nontransient interactive group of persons jointly occupying a single dwelling unit, including the joint use of common areas, and sharing household activities and responsibilities such as meals, chores, and expenses.

**Zoning Districts:**
A request for Reasonable Accommodation may be submitted on behalf of any disabled person(s) from any City of San Jose Zoning Code provision or policies. The attached table, entitled "Table-A", provides a general guide to uses and the appropriate zoning districts.

Any questions regarding the Reasonable Accommodation procedure should be addressed to the City of San Jose, Department of Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement at 408-535-3555.

To arrange an accommodation under the Americans With Disabilities Act to participate in any public meeting, please call 408-535-3555 at least 48 hours before the meeting.
## TABLE A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USE/ZONING DISTRICT</th>
<th>R-1</th>
<th>R-2</th>
<th>R-M</th>
<th>R-MH</th>
<th>COMMERCIAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Family Dwelling (Single Housekeeping Unit)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>CUP</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Care Facility ≤6 (State License)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Service Facility ≤6 (No State License)</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Care Facility &gt;6 (State License)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>CUP</td>
<td>CUP</td>
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<td>CUP</td>
<td>CUP</td>
<td>CUP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P - Permitted
No - Not Permitted
CUP - Conditional Use Permit

Note: Zoning Ordinance provisions are subject to requests for Reasonable Accommodation.
# Request for REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

(pursuant to SJMC Chapter 20.160)

Under Section 20.160.010 of the San Jose Municipal Code, the City of San Jose seeks to provide reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities seeking fair access to housing in the application of City zoning laws. The purpose of this application form is to commence the process for making a request for reasonable accommodation.

| FILE NUMBER (to be completed by staff) | RECEIPT # __________________
| RA | AMOUNT __________________
| NAME OF APPLICANT/Relationship to person(s) with disability (Please Print) | DATE __________________
| DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER | FAX NUMBER | BY __________________

**AFFILIATION OR ORGANIZATION:**
(if applicable)

**ADDRESS OF PROPERTY:**

**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER (APN):**

**MAILING ADDRESS:**
(if different from above)

**PROPERTY OWNER:** (if different from above)

**PROPERTY OWNER'S MAILING ADDRESS:**

**CURRENT USE OF THE PROPERTY:**

1. **Request For Accommodation:**
   
   a. Specify any requested accommodations to a code, policy or practice of the City of San Jose. Please cite the applicable code provisions and the accommodation requested from the provision.

   
   b. What is the basis for the claim that the person or persons on behalf of which this application is being made is considered Disabled under the Fair Housing Act?

   
   c. Why is the accommodation necessary to make specific housing available to those persons?

* Please feel free to answer questions on a separate page(s) and use additional pages as necessary.
2. **Please provide information regarding each of the following criteria:**

   a. Special needs created by the disability.

   b. Potential benefit that can be accomplished by the requested modification.

   c. Potential impact on surrounding uses.

   d. Concise physical description of the property. Please attach floor plan and site plan (need not be to scale, but please dimension site plan and indicate parking).

   e. Alternative accommodations which may provide an equivalent level of benefit.

   f. In the case of a determination involving a single family dwelling, whether the household would be considered a Single Housekeeping Unit if it were not using special services that are required because of the disabilities of the residents.

   g. Whether the requested accommodation would impose an undue financial or administrative burden on the City.

   h. Whether the requested accommodation would require a fundamental alteration in the nature of a program.
3. Other Information:

a. Do you have a county, state or federal license or certification with respect to the use of property? If yes, attach a copy of applicable document(s).

b. Are any alterations planned to the property? If yes, please describe.

c. Will the property be identified by a name or sign?

d. Will the property contain a staff office?

e. Does the property have on-site parking? If yes, how many spaces?

f. Please describe all services to be offered on the premises:

g. Do you provide services at the property to non-residents?

h. Proposed maximum number of residents on the property:

   Adults: _______   Children: _______   Typical length of stay for residents: _______

i. Proposed number of staff members:

   Total Staff: _______   Resident: _______   Non-Resident: _______

j. Have any neighbors been contacted regarding this proposal? If yes, describe how they were contacted.

k. If neighbors have immediate concerns regarding residents or the operation of the facility, who should they contact?

   Name: ___________________________   Telephone Number: ___________________________

4. Please attach a list of the adjacent property owners. Adjacent is defined as sharing a property line or located directly across the street from the proposed location. You will also need to provide two (2) sets of stamped envelopes addressed to the adjacent property owners and occupants. A self help area is available at the Planning Department to assist you in locating property owner addresses. Please do not include a return address on the envelopes as Planning staff will use the envelopes to mail the required notices.
**REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION REQUEST**

Date: ________________

**Recommendation(s) of the Advisory Committee:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant</th>
<th>Grant with Conditions</th>
<th>Deny</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The recommendation of the Advisory Committee on the request for a Reasonable Accommodation Request is to:

If the Advisory Committee recommends to the Grant with Conditions, the following terms apply:

The request for a Reasonable Accommodation is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Granted</th>
<th>Granted with Conditions Noted Below</th>
<th>Denied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Findings:

Signature ___________________________  Date ________________