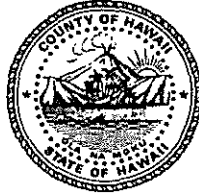


Stephen K. Yamashiro
Mayor



Virginia Goldstein
Director

Russell Kokubun
Deputy Director

County of Hawaii

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

25 Aupuni Street, Room 109 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252
(808) 961-8288 • Fax (808) 961-8742

CERTIFIED MAIL

P 417 370 138

September 17, 1998

Mr. Klaus D. Conventz
P.O. Box 2308
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745-2308

Dear Mr. Conventz:

Variance Application WH(VAR 98-046)

Variance No. 951

Applicant: KLAUS D. CONVENTZ

Owner: EDWARD AND ELIZABETH BUXTON

Request: Variance From Minimum Rear Yard and Open Space Requirements

Tax Map Key: 7-7-018: 014

After reviewing your application and the additional information submitted, the Planning Director certifies the approval of your variance request to allow an existing one story single family dwelling and detached garage with a 12.4 feet rear yard in lieu of the minimum 15 feet rear yard and a 8.1 feet open space in lieu of the minimum 10 feet open space, as required by Ordinance 96-160, Chapter 25, Article 5, Division 1, Section 25-5-7(a) (1) (A), and Ordinance 97-88. Article 4, Division 4, Section 25-4-44(a).

The subject property is located at White Sands Beach Estates, Lot 11, Unit III, File Plan 1102, at Laaloa, North Kona, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: 7-7-018: 014.

SPECIAL AND UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

1. The subject property consists of 8,016 square feet of land area.
2. The subject single family dwelling was issued the following building permits:
 - a. Building Permit No. 6652 opened on December 20, 1984 and closed on September 3, 1985 for the construction of a dwelling and carport.

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- b. Building Permit No. 7042 opened on September 3, 1985 and closed on July 14, 1986 for an addition to the dwelling.
3. A survey map prepared by Wes Thomas Associates on July 2, 1998, shows the existing one story single family dwelling and detached carport with a 12.4 feet rear yard in lieu of the minimum 15 feet rear yard. As such the dwelling and detached carport encroach 2 feet 7-1/4 inches into the required 15 feet rear yard.
4. The survey map shows the existing one story single family dwelling and detached carport with a 8.1 feet open space in lieu of the minimum 10 feet open space. As such the dwelling and detached carport encroach 1 foot 10-7/8 inches into the required 10 feet open space.
5. When the building permit was approved, the owner received all of the necessary Department of Public Works, Building Division approvals for the dwelling and detached carport.
6. When approved by the Planning Department, the plans would have had to have shown that all minimum required setbacks were going to be adhered to for the dwelling and detached carport in 1984.
7. There appears to have been a construction staking error in the siting of the structure on the property. This occurred in 1984 when the dwelling and detached carport were constructed. There also appears to have been a very minor siting error made at the time of construction with the encroachment. No other evidence has been found to show otherwise.
8. It has been over 14 years since the construction of the existing dwelling and detached carport were approved by the County, and the owners are trying to resolve a situation which they had no control over and have honestly conducted a certified survey to ensure the disclosure of all facts concerning the dwelling and detached carport.
9. The variance application was filed with the Planning Department on July 21, 1998.

There were no objections from any of the participating government agencies or any surrounding property owners.

Therefore, considering the foregoing facts, the Planning Director has determined that there are special or unusual circumstances applying to the subject property which exist either to a degree which deprives the owner or applicant of substantial property rights that would otherwise be

available or to a degree which obviously interferes with the best use or manner of development of the subject property.

ALTERNATIVES

1. The owners on their own volition are honestly trying to resolve this long standing problem which was not created by them. The investigation of this particular matter has not revealed any deliberate or intentional grounds in allowing the encroachments to occur.
2. Any architectural alterations or design changes to the dwelling and detached carport to conform with the minimum setbacks would create undue and excessive hardships for the applicant when other more reasonable options are available.

Based on the above cited considerations, there are no reasonable solutions available without excessive demands being placed on the owners when a more reasonable alternative is available by the granting of this variance application.

INTENT AND PURPOSE

The intent and purpose of requiring buildings setbacks within a subdivision is to assure that adequate air and light circulation is available between structures and property lines. The existing dwelling and detached carport encroach 2 feet 7-1/4 inches into the required 15 feet rear yard and 1 foot 10-7/8 inches into the required 10 feet open space. These encroachments into the rear yard and open space will not diminish the ability for adequate light and air to circulate and will still provide adequate open space. Therefore, while the Zoning Code requires a minimum 15 feet rear yard and 10 feet open space, in this particular case, the encroachments will not visually or physically impact or be adverse to any adjacent properties or development with the granting of this variance. The rest of the existing dwelling complies with the minimum yard requirements of the Zoning Code.

Based on the foregoing findings, this variance request would be consistent with the general purpose of the zoning district and the intents and purposes of the Zoning Code, Subdivision Code and the County General Plan. Furthermore, this variance will not be materially detrimental to the public's welfare and will not cause substantial adverse impact to the area's character and to adjoining properties.

This variance request is approved, subject to the following conditions:

1. The owner, assigns or successors shall be responsible for complying with all stated conditions of approval.


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2. The approval of this variance shall be included in the conveyance document for the subject property and a copy of the recorded conveyance document shall be submitted to the Planning Department within a year from the effective date of approval of this variance.
3. If applicable, approval from the Board of Appeals for all Building Code Violations will be obtained.
4. All encroachments within the County right-of-way shall be removed.
5. All other applicable State and County rules and regulations shall be complied with.

Should any of the foregoing conditions not be complied with, the Planning Director may proceed to declare this Variance Permit null and void.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Royden Yamasato of this department.

Sincerely,


for VIRGINIA GOLDSTEIN
Planning Director

EMM: rld
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xc: West Hawaii Office