

Ruthanne Fuller Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts

Department of Planning and Development 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459 Telephone (617) 796-1120 Telefax (617) 796-1142

#181-19

(617) 796-1142 TDD/TTY (617) 796-1089 www.newtonma.gov

> Barney Heath Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 21, 2019

TO: City Council

FROM: Barney Heath, Director of Planning and Development

Jennifer Caira, Chief Planner for Current Planning

Michael Gleba, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Petition #181-19, for SPECIAL PERMIT/SITE PLAN APPROVAL to raze the existing

single-family dwelling and construct seven single-family attached dwellings in two buildings, to reduce the frontage requirement, to reduce the side setback requirement, to allow a retaining wall greater than 4' in the setback and to allow a driveway in the side setback at **956 Walnut Street**, Ward 6, Newton Highlands, on land known as Section 62 Block 04 Lot 05, containing approximately 32,274 sq. ft. of land in a district zoned MULTI RESIDENCE 1. Ref: Sec. 7.3.3, 7.4, 3.4.1, 3.2.4, 5.4.2.B, 6.2.3.B.2 of Chapter 30 of the City of Newton Rev Zoning Ord, 2017.

As submitted, this petition is for seven single-family attached dwellings in two structures.

On Thursday, June 20, the petitioner informed Planning staff that, pursuant to discussions with a group of neighbors, it intends to make modifications to the project's design, including separating the previously proposed 5-unit building into two separate structures – one containing 3 units and one 2 units. As such, the number of units in the project would remain at seven but they would be in three structures rather than the two as previously designed.

The petitioner has indicated that such plans will be submitted for review as soon as they are completed. Planning staff and the petitioner's attorney has discussed the situation and agreed that review of the project should be delayed to a future date so as to have the opportunity to appropriately assess the revised plans prior to a hearing.