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August 19, 2010

City of Las Vegas
Planning & Development
731 S. 4th Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Reference: Alexander - 215
Major Amendment to Site Development Review
APN #137-12-114-001-077;122-126;158-304;310-371

On behalf of Richmond American Homes, we respectfully request your consideration of the attached Major Amendment to the Site Development Review doe Alexander-215.

Location:

The proposed site is located on Alexander Road and I-215 within Section 12, Township 20 South, Range 59 East.

Request:

At this time we are requesting the approval of a Major Amendment to a Site Development Review application to update the existing SDR for the Alexander-215 project (SDR-8635). Richmond American Homes is contemplating the purchase of the remaining lots in the Alexander-215 subdivision and would like to offer different architectural house plans in the place of those originally approved with SDR-8635 and reduce the front setbacks of those originally approved with SDR-8635.

Richmond American Homes proposes **A)** to offer different architectural house plans, **B)** to reduce the front setback from the approved 10' setback to a 5' setback and **C)** to reduce the existing garage setback from the approved 18' setback to a distance of 6', 8', or 18'+ depending on the lot and constraints.

Richmond American Homes wants to offer two story house products on the Alexander – 215 project instead of the two and three story house product offered by the previous developer. In order to achieve this more desirable house plan, Richmond American Homes will need a larger foundation footprint than what was required for the existing house plans. Therefore, Richmond American Homes is requesting reduced front setbacks to achieve a two story house with a comparable square footage of a three story house on the same sized lot.

This project has an existing grade change of more than 90 vertical feet from the northwest corner down to the southeast corner of the project. This significant elevation difference resulted in the previously approved design of street slopes reaching 6.0 percent. With the steepness of the street, a 5 foot long

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driveway would exceed CLV allowed driveway slopes on the downhill side of the driveway if the uphill side of the driveway was to be higher than the adjacent top of curb grade. Therefore TCE is requesting garage setbacks of 6', 8', or 18'+ dependent on the slope of the existing street to maintain CLV approvable driveway slopes. These driveway lengths will also keep the distance between the house finish floor and the garage finish floor under two feet which is preferable to prospective home buyers. The following table breaks down the number of lots that would be requested for each driveway length.

PROPOSED GARAGE SETBACK	MAXIMUM STREET SLOPE	NUMBER OF LOTS WITH 3' SIDEWALK	NUMBER OF LOTS WITHOUT 3' SIDEWALK	TOTAL NUMBER OF LOTS
6 FEET	4.50%	65	102	167
8 FEET	6.00%	32	92	124

As shown in the table above, only 32 of the 291 lots would have a garage setback of 8' adjacent to a sidewalk producing an effective driveway length of 11' with the added 3' sidewalk.

The proposed garage setback distances are based upon the perpendicular distance from the face of the garage to the front property line (back of curb or sidewalk if it exists) for linear streets and from the nearest garage corner to the front property line on curvilinear streets. Due to the curvilinear street design of this project the actual driveway lengths may exceed the proposed garage setbacks based upon the angle at which the driveway intersects the front property line. The exact driveway length for each lot can not be determined until the plot plan stage of the project when the final driveway design is completed based upon the architectural house plan chosen for that lot.

This request for a Major Amendment to the SDR is similar to the previously approved Review of Condition for this project (ROC-10964) which was approved to allow a 5' front house setback and a 6' garage setback. Approval of this Major Amendment will allow Richmond American Homes greater flexibility in designing 2 story floor plan houses to fit on the smaller compact lots of the Alexander – 215 subdivision.

Please place this request for a Major Amendment to the SDR on the next available Planning Commission agenda. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call me at 932-6125.

Sincerely,



Kurt Johansen, P.E
Senior Project Manager

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