

PRELIMINARY PROJECT ASSESSMENT

Project Address: 1404-1406 LEAVENWORTH ST

Case Number: 2019-001612PPA

Date: April 9, 2019

To: Matthew Diamond

From: Claudine Asbagh, Planning Department

Christy Alexander, Planning Department

This Preliminary Project Assessment (PPA) provides feedback from the Planning Department regarding the proposed project at the property listed above, based on the information provided in the PPA application, the Planning Code, General Plan, Planning Department policies, and local, state, and federal regulations as of the date of this document, all of which are subject to change.

Please be advised that the PPA application does not constitute an application for development with the Planning Department. This PPA does not represent a complete review of the proposed project, does not grant a project approval of any kind, and does not supersede any required Planning Department approvals.

A Project Application may be submitted with the Planning Department at any time following the issuance of this PPA. The Project Application should include any supplemental applications for entitlement or required information for environmental review, as indicated in this PPA. The Project Application, and all supplemental applications, may be found here: http://sf-planning.org/permit-forms-applications-and-fees

The Planning Department may provide additional comments once a Project Application has been submitted. While some approvals are granted by the Planning Department, some are at the discretion of other bodies, such as the Planning Commission or Historic Preservation Commission. Additionally, the project will likely require approvals from other City agencies. For more, see the Appendix C: Additional Policies and Requirements.

You may contact Christy Alexander, at 415-575-8724 or <u>Christy.Alexander@sfgov.org</u>, to answer any questions you may have about this PPA, or to schedule a follow-up meeting with Planning staff.

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SITE DETAILS

Block/Lot(s): 0188/013
Parcel Area: 1,350 sq. ft.]

Zoning District(s): RM-3 (Residential-Mixed, Medium Density

Height/Bulk District(s): 65-A

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposal is to convert the existing 3-story 2-unit building into a 5-story 3-unit building over a basement garage and lobby. 3-4 new parking spaces are proposed for the basement garage.

KEY PROJECT CONSIDERATIONS

Any Project Application for the proposed project should consider and, to the extent feasible, address the following issues:

- 1. Transit Priority Streets. Washington Street is classified as a Transit-Oriented Street. Design decisions should be informed by adjacent transit routes and improvements. In general, development projects can support transit use by maximizing density, reducing or eliminating off-street parking, minimizing or eliminating curb cuts, including transit-supportive land uses and pedestrian-friendly facades, and investing in safety and beautification improvements in the public realm. For information on existing and planned transit improvements fronting your site, please see http://sftransportationmap.org/, SFMTA's project search tool https://www.sfmta.com/projects and its MUNI Forward Transit Priority Projects web site: www.sfmta.com/projects/muni-forward-transit-priority-projects.
- 2. **Design.** Due to this Project being located near a Transit Priority Street, the Department recommends removing any proposed parking. This can be achieved by removing the top level of the building and shifting residential units down starting at the ground level, thus decreasing height to be more consistent with the surrounding neighborhood and reducing potential shadow impacts onto the nearby Washington Hyde Mini-Park. Using materials that are consistent with those found in the neighborhood are recommended, as well as removing the front façade fire escape. The Project's design should also meet the 25%- and 15-foot rear yard requirements, see **Appendix D: Preliminary Design Comments.**

PLANNING CODE REVIEW

The proposed project will be reviewed for conformity with the requirements of the San Francisco Planning Code, and as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), upon submittal of a Project Application. Based on the information provided in the PPA application, a Project Application for the proposed project should include supplemental applications for the following:

- 1. Shadow Analysis.
- 2. Variance from Rear Yard Requirements.



For more information, including conformity of the proposed project with Planning Code requirements, and applicable Development Impact Fees, see **Appendix A: Planning Code Review Checklist**.

Please refer to the <u>Planning Director's Bulletin No. 1</u> for an overview of Development Impact Fees, and to the Department of Building Inspection's <u>Development Impact Fee webpage</u> for more information about current rates.

Project Sponsors are encouraged, and in some cases required, to conduct public outreach with the surrounding community and neighborhood groups early in the development process. Additionally, many approvals require a public hearing with an associated neighborhood notification. Differing levels of neighborhood notification are mandatory for some or all of the reviews and approvals listed above.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposed project would require environmental review in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Based on preliminary review of the proposed project, the following would be likely to apply:

Likely Environmental Document: Community Plan Evaluation (CPE)

The Project Application should include the following to be deemed accepted:

- 1. Historic Resource Evaluation, Part 1 Draft
- 2. Preliminary Geotechnical Study with Boring Logs
- 3. Maher Application

For more information, see Appendix B: Preliminary Environmental Review Checklist.



LAND USE:

Permitted Use	Conditional Use		Planning	g Code Section & Comment
		209.2	RM-3	
Comments:				

OTHER REQUIRED APPROVALS:

Required	Planning Code Section				
\boxtimes		Shadow Impacts on Property under the Jurisdiction of the Recreation & Parks Commission –			
	<u>295</u>	Need to submit Shadow Application and reduce height/bulk to reduce shading on public park			
		(Washington & Hyde Mini-park).			
\boxtimes	<u>311</u>	Neighborhood Notification			
\boxtimes	<u>305</u>	Variance			

Comments: Needs Variance for Required Rear Yard. The proposal is intensifying degree of non-compliance of existing structure that protrudes into the required 25% rear yard at all residential levels.

ADDITIONAL PLANNING CODE REQUIREMENTS:

Complies	Does Not Comply	Needs Info	Plar	nning Code Section	Comments
\boxtimes			<u>121</u>	Lot Area/Width	
			134	Rear Yard	Please remove all decks that protrude into 25% required rear yard above the second level. The project must retain a minimum of 15 feet to the rear property line at the first and second levels.
			135	Open Space	If rear decks are removed as stated above, then required open space will not be met. Planning recommends reconsidering design options.
			<u>136</u>	Permitted Obstructions	Fire escapes shall be no more than 4'6" into open area (front yard in this case), please detail these dimensions on plans. Planning recommends removing these entirely.
			<u>140</u>	Dwelling Unit Exposure	
\boxtimes			<u>141</u>	Rooftop Screening	
			<u>142</u>	Parking Screening & Greening	
		\boxtimes	<u>144</u>	Street Frontage	Limited to 10' wide garage door, please detail dimensions on plans.
			149	Better Roofs/ Living Roof Alternative	Please illustrate how the project meets the requirements of Section 149.
			151	Required Off-Street Parking	No vehicular parking required, recommend removing all parking and the new basement level



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Complies	Does Not Comply	Needs Info	Planning Code Section		Comments
					entirely.
\boxtimes			<u>155.2</u>	Bicycle Parking	
\boxtimes			<u>155(r)</u>	Curb Cuts	
			260(a)	Height	Complies with the 65' height limit however needs to meet Section 295 for shadowing a public park (Washington & Hyde Mini-park). Planning recommends removing basement level thus decreasing the proposal by one floor and reducing height.
		\boxtimes	270	Bulk	Complies with the bulk limits however needs to meet Section 295 for shadowing a public park (Washington & Hyde Mini-park).

DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES:

Required		Planning Code Section
\boxtimes		Child-Care for Residential Projects
	<u>414A</u>	



TABLE 1. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

No.	Document Type	Applicable to Proposed Project	Notes / Links	(For Dept. use upon submittal of Project Application) Accepted
1.1(a)	Considered a 'project' subject to CEQA review per section	⊠ YES □ NO	The proposed project is considered a "project" subject to CEQA review.	☐ YES ☐ NO
	15378 and 15060(c)(2)			
1.1(b)	Potentially eligible for Class 15301 Existing Facilities Categorical Exemption –	⊠ YES □ NO	The project meets the requirements and may qualify for a CEQA Class 15301 Existing Facilities categorical exemption. The project proposes a remodel/addition to convert an existing 3-story, 2-unit building into a 5-story building with three condominium units basement garage & lobby.	□ YES □ NO
			Pay applicable fees.	

 $^{^{^{1}}}$ Note: Numbers appear nonconsecutively because certain topics do not apply to the proposed project. These rows have been deleted for clarity.



No.	Environmental Topic	General Description of Requirement	Applicable to Proposed Project	Notes / Links / Accepted Application Requirements	(For Dept. use upon submittal of Project Application) Accepted
2.2(a)	Historic Preservation	Requires consultant- prepared Historic Resource Evaluation, Part 1	⊠ YES □ NO	The project site contains a building considered to be a potential historic resource (constructed 45 or more years ago); therefore, the proposed project is subject to review by the Department's Historic Preservation staff. A Historic Resource Evaluation (HRE) must be prepared by a qualified consultant selected from the department's historic resource consultant pool. Contact CPC-HRE@sfgov.org for a list of eligible consultants. The selected consultant must send a draft scope to CPC-HRE@sfgov.org for department approval. The consultant must submit first draft of HRE directly to the department (CPC-HRE@sfgov.org).	□ YES □ NO □ N/A
2.2(b)	Historic Preservation	Requires consultant- prepared Historic Resource Evaluation, Part 2	□ YES □ NO ⊠ TBD	An HRE Part 2 may be requested depending on the outcome of the HRE Part 1 review.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
2.4(a)	Noise	Requires consultant- prepared Noise Scope of Work	☐ YES ☑ NO ☐ TBD		☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
2.4(b)	Noise	Mechanical equipment or other noise sources	⊠ YES □ NO	The project sponsor must describe the location and provide plans with the number and size (horsepower) of stationary sources or mechanical equipment (e.g., fans, HVAC, backup diesel generators, fire pumps) or other noise sources.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A



No.	Environmental Topic	General Description of Requirement	Applicable to Proposed Project	Notes / Links / Accepted Application Requirements	(For Dept. use upon submittal of Project Application) Accepted
2.5	Air Quality	Stationary sources	□ YES ⊠ NO	The project sponsor must describe the location and provide plans with the number, size (horsepower), and engine tier level of stationary sources (e.g., backup diesel generators, fire pumps).	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
2.6(a)	Air Quality	Subject to San Francisco Health Code article 38	□ YES ⊠ NO	The project sponsor must submit a copy of a filed Application For Article 38 Compliance Assessment with the department of public health. More information is found here: http://www.sfdph.org/dph/eh/Air/default.asp.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
2.6(b)	Air Quality	Requires consultant- prepared Air Quality Study/Section For Criteria Air Pollutants AND Health Risk Scope of Work	□ YES ⊠ NO	[briefly describe reason for study] The consultant (not subject to department list) must submit a Scope of Work to the department. The project sponsor must describe estimated hours and number of days per week of construction, including by phase as defined in the CalEEMod Manual (i.e., demolition, site preparation, grading, building construction, architectural coatings, paving). The project sponsor must describe estimated number, size (horsepower), and use (daily and annual) of construction equipment by type, including trucks and any impact equipment, by phase. The project sponsor must describe the estimated number of daily diesel vehicle trucks during operation.	□ YES □ NO □ N/A
2.7	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Requires Greenhouse Gas Analysis Compliance Checklist	□ YES ⊠ NO	The project sponsor must submit a Greenhouse Gas Compliance Checklist For [Municipal/Private] Development Projects, found here: https://sf-planning.org/resources under Applications and Forms.	□ YES □ NO □ N/A



No. 2.8(a)	Environmental Topic Wind	General Description of Requirement Requires consultant-prepared qualitative Wind Memorandum Scope of Work	Applicable to Proposed Project ☐ YES ☑ NO	Notes / Links / Accepted Application Requirements The proposed addition would increase the existing building height to 61 feet. The consultant (not subject to department list) must submit scope of work for the memorandum. The memo could potentially conclude tunnel testing is needed.	(For Dept. use upon submittal of Project Application) Accepted YES NO N/A
2.8(b)	Wind	Requires consultant- prepared quantitative Wind Study With Tunnel Testing Scope of Work	☐ YES ⊠ NO ☐ TBD	The consultant (not subject to department list) must submit a scope of work to the department.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
2.9	Wind/Shadow	Building setbacks	⊠ YES □ NO	The project sponsor must provide labeled and dimensioned plans of building setbacks and coverage at each above-grade level, including height of the roof, parapet, ridge, towers, and penthouses.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
2.10 (a)	Biological Resources	Trees	⊠ YES □ NO	The project sponsor must describe location and show on plans the number of trees on, over, or adjacent to the project site, including those significant, landmark, and street trees (see Public Works article 16 for definitions) and those removed and added by the project.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
2.10 (b)	Biological Resources	Requires consultant- prepared Biological Resources Study Scope of Work	□ YES ⊠ NO	briefly describe reason for study The consultant (not subject to department list) must submit a first draft of the study.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A



No. 2.11 (a)	Environmental Topic Geology and Soils	General Description of Requirement Project site slope	Applicable to Proposed Project	Notes / Links / Accepted Application Requirements The project is located on a slope greater than 20%. The project sponsor must describe the average slope of the project site (in percentage).	(For Dept. use upon submittal of Project Application) Accepted YES NO N/A
2.11 (b)	Geology and Soils	Requires Preliminary Geotechnical Study, including boring logs	⊠ YES □ NO	The project proposes excavation for the proposed underground parking. The project sponsor must submit Preliminary Geotechnical Study with boring logs.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
2.12 (a)	Hazardous Materials	Subject to Health Code article 22 (Maher Ordinance)	⊠ YES □ NO □ TBD	The project site is in an area of known or suspected soil and/or groundwater contamination; therefore, the project sponsor must submit a copy of the Maher Application submitted to department of public health to the environmental coordinator. Submit a copy of the form with the department of public health intake stamp. More information is found here: http://www.sfdph.org/dph/EH/Haz Waste/hazWasteSiteMitigation.asp.	□ YES □ NO □ N/A
2.12 (b)	Hazardous Materials	Requires consultant- prepared Phase I Environmental Site Assessment	□ YES ⊠ NO	The project sponsor must submit a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
2.13	Additional	Basic description of additional information needed]	□ YES ⊠ NO	describe additional information needed that will not already be required in project application or tables below	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A

Abbreviations:

SFMTA: San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency



TABLE 3. POST-ACCEPTED APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS ²

No. 3.1(b)	Environmental Topic General	General Description of Requirement Other agency approvals for EIRs	Applicable to Proposed Project	Notes / Links / Application Requirements The project sponsor must submit a list of anticipated permits and approvals from other agencies (e.g., SFMTA, SFPUC, Public Works, etc.) for curb cut providing access to the parking garage.	(For Dept. use upon submittal of Project Application) Accepted YES NO N/A
3.2	Archeology	Preliminary archeological review	⊠ YES □ NO □ TBD	Department will conduct a preliminary archeological review. Project sponsor must provide detailed information, including sections, on proposed soils-disturbing activities, such as grading, excavation, installation of foundations, soils improvement, and site remediation. Project sponsor must submit any available geotechnical/soils or phase II environmental site assessment. The preliminary review could result in the requirement of a technical study.	□ YES □ NO □ N/A
3.3(a)	Transportation	Sidewalk dimensions	⊠ YES □ NO	The project sponsor must provide existing and proposed sidewalk dimensions, taking into account presence and general location of physical structures.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
3.3(c)	Transportation	Overhead wires	⊠ YES □ NO	The project sponsor must describe location and type of overhead wires (e.g., Muni, PG&E).	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
3.3(e)	Transportation	Programmatic features – internal to buildings	⊠ YES □ NO	The project sponsor must describe operations of vehicle stackers, elevators, turning tables, loading facilities, etc.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A

² Project sponsor must submit these materials after the department deems the project application accepted.



TABLE 3. POST-ACCEPTED APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS 2

No. 3.4(a)	Environmental Topic Transportation / Noise / Air Quality	General Description of Requirement Construction – phasing	Applicable to Proposed Project ☐ YES ☑ NO	Notes / Links / Application Requirements The project sponsor must describe estimated hours and number of days per week of construction, including by phase, as defined on page 31 of the CalEEMod Manual (i.e., demolition, site preparation, grading, building construction, architectural coatings, paving).	(For Dept. use upon submittal of Project Application) Accepted YES NO N/A
3.4(b)	Transportation / Noise / Air Quality	Construction – equipment	□ YES ⊠ NO	The project sponsor must describe estimated number, size (horsepower), and use (daily and total) of construction equipment by type, including trucks and any impact equipment, by phase. The project sponsor must indicate whether nighttime construction could occur.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
3.4(c)	Transportation / Noise / Air Quality	Operation – diesel trucks	□ YES ⊠ NO	The project sponsor must describe the estimated number of daily diesel vehicle trucks during operation.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
3.4(d)	Transportation / Noise / Air Quality	Operation – waste facilities	⊠ YES □ NO	The project sponsor must describe and provide plans of the location and dimensions of rooms for compost, recycling, and waste.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
3.4(e)	Transportation / Noise	Operation – noise sources	□ YES ⊠ NO	The project sponsor must describe and provide plans of the location and dimensions of locations where amplified noise or large crowds may congregate, as well as estimated frequency and size of any planned events.	□ YES □ NO □ N/A



TABLE 3. POST-ACCEPTED APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS 2

No. 3.5(a)	Environmental Topic Utilities and Service Systems	General Description of Requirement Water supply	Applicable to Proposed Project ☐ YES ☑ NO	Notes / Links / Application Requirements The project meets the definition of a water demand project per CEQA Guidelines section 15155. The project sponsor must submit water demand estimates.	(For Dept. use upon submittal of Project Application) Accepted YES NO
3.5(b)	Utilities and Service Systems	Wastewater demand	□ YES ⊠ NO	The project sponsor must provide wastewater demand calculations, consistent with the San Francisco Subdivision Regulations.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
3.6(b)	Hydrology and Water Quality	Stormwater and sewer management	□ YES ⊠ NO	The project sponsor must describe stormwater retention, detention, infiltration, and treatment features proposed to meet requirements of Stormwater Management Ordinance.	□ YES □ NO □ N/A
3.7(a)	Hazardous Materials	Requires consultant- prepared phase II environmental site assessment	☐ YES ☐ NO ☑ TBD	The department of public health will review the phase I assessment to determine if the project sponsor must submit a final phase II assessment.	☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ N/A
3.7(b)	Hazardous Materials	Operational materials	⊠ YES □ NO	The project sponsor must list and describe any potential hazardous materials to be stored or used as part of project operations.	□ YES □ NO □ N/A

Abbreviations:

CEQA: California Environmental Quality Act

EIR: Environmental Impact Report



TABLE 4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

No.	Environmental Topic	General Description	Applicable to Proposed Project	Notes / Links
4.1	General	General Resources 🗵 YES Please see the following links for additional resources that ma		
			□ NO	inform the environmental analysis:
				https://propertymap.sfplanning.org/
				https://sftransportationmap.org/
				https://developmentmap.sfplanning.org/
4.2	Tribal	Consultation	☐ YES	The department will determine if notifying California Native
	Cultural		⊠ NO	American tribes regarding tribal cultural resources is required.
	Resources		\square TBD	Consultation with California Native American tribes regarding
				tribal cultural resources may be required at the request of the
				tribes. No additional information is needed from the project
				sponsor at this time.
4.3	Shadow	Shadow Fan	⊠ YES	The department prepared the attached Shadow Fan which shows
			\square NO	new shadow on parks and open space.



NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT

The subject project sits in a narrow (20'-0" width) key lot parcel with lateral change of grade. The neighborhood is characterized by 3-5 stories residential and mixed-use residential buildings with some corner buildings presenting ground floor retail shops. Most buildings display architecture details that highlight the traditional architecture elements such as building entrances, windows, bay windows, and cornices. Bay windows are common and found in traditional, square, and round shapes – these typically at corner buildings. Buildings also typically display differentiation between the base, middle, and the building roof termination. The building materials found in the neighborhood are consistent in the surrounding buildings and include bricks (typically used at the bases), stucco, wood paneling, and in some cases, plaster.

COMPLIANCE WITH DESIGN GUIDELINES

Due to its type or location, the project is required to comply with the following design guidelines:

Residential Design Guidelines				
GUIDELINES NOT CURRENTLY MET	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMPLIANCE			
Mixed Visual Character - Guideline: In areas with a mixed visual character, design buildings to help define, unify and contribute positively to the existing visual context.	The design proposes to add new materials and architectural elements to a neighborhood where buildings are typically consistent. The proposal should look for common architectural elements and materials and propose a building that will fit in the neighborhood while complementing and strengthening its characteristics.			
Topography – Guideline: Respect the topography of the site and the surrounding area; and Building Scale – Guideline: Design the scale of the building to be compatible with the height and depth of surrounding buildings.	Remove upper floor (called 5 th floor on plans). Please see comment regarding Building Scale at the Street.			
Front setback - Guideline: Treat the front setback so that it provides a pedestrian scale and enhances the street. And; Guideline: Provide landscaping in the front setback.	Ground floor landscaping should be contained within the property lines.			



Rear Yard – Guideline: Articulate the building to minimize impacts on light and privacy to adjacent properties; and Building Scale at the Mid-Block Open Space – Guideline: Design the height and depth of the building to be compatible with the existing building scale at the mid-block open space.	Provide code compliant rear yard; match lightwells and side setbacks of adjacent buildings for any additional floors. The project should attempt to provide a well-intentioned neighbor's gesture to address any existing property line windows.
Building Scale at the Street – Guideline: Design the height and depth of the building to be compatible with the existing building scale at the street.	The building should not present more than 4 stories at the street frontage (called 3 rd floor on plans). A 5th floor level (called 4 th floor on plans) is acceptable if a substantial front setback is provided and it is not visible from the street. The 6 th floor (called 5 th floor on plans) should be removed.
Proportions – Guideline: Design the building's proportions to be compatible with those found on surrounding buildings.	Remove exposed fire-escape at the front of the building.
Building Entrances – Guideline: Design building entrances to enhance the connection between the public realm of the street and sidewalk and the private realm of the building.	Planning recommends remove parking to provide additional habitable space at the ground floor. Improve expression of main building entrance; match solid/void ratio balance with solid/void ratio of buildings in the neighborhood, as well as window sizes and proportions. If an elevator is included in the project, it will need to have a vestibule or lobby (so that one can't enter directly into all the units directly off the elevator.
Utility Panels – Guideline: Locate utility panels so they are not visible on the front building wall or on the sidewalk.	Clarify location of utility panels so they are not visible on the front building wall or on the sidewalk.
Bay windows – Guideline: Design the length, height and type of bay windows to	Remove exposed fire-escape at the front of the building. Design bay windows accordingly.



be compatible with those on surrounding buildings.	
Architectural Details – Guideline: Design the placement and scale of architectural details to be compatible with the building and the surrounding area.	Provide architectural details that are compatible with level of architectural details found in the buildings in the neighborhood.
Windows – Guideline: Use windows that contribute to the architectural character of the building and the neighborhood.	Provide windows that compatible in size, proportions, features, and materials to windows sizes, proportions, features, and materials found in the surrounding buildings. Provide information of windows /openings of adjacent buildings on elevations.
Exterior materials – Guideline: The type, finish, and quality of a building's materials must be compatible with those used in the surrounding area.	Provide building materials and patterns that are compatible with building materials and patterns found in the neighborhood (i.e. traditional wood siding vs. diagonal wood siding).
Material Detailing – Guideline: Ensure that materials are properly detailed and appropriately applied.	Provide materials detailing, windows profiles, and other information that will help ensure the quality of the building and appropriateness in the neighborhood.

For a full list of guidelines that may apply to this site, refer to the "Design Guidelines" link under the zoning tab when researching the property on the Planning Department's Property Information Map.

