RESOLUTION NO. ZA2021-007

A RESOLUTION OF THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH APPROVING COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. CD2020-137 TO CONSTRUCT A NEW THIRD STORY ROOF DECK AND 280 SQUARE FOOT ADDITION TO AN EXISTING SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE LOCATED AT 408 38TH STREET (PA2020-282)

THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH HEREBY FINDS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. STATEMENT OF FACTS.

1. An application was filed by Pam Dobson with respect to property located at 408 38th Street, requesting approval of a coastal development permit.

2. The lot at 408 38th Street is legally described as Lot 5 of Block 437 of the Canal Section Tract.

3. The applicant proposes to construct a new 280 square foot third story addition and roof deck on an existing two (2)-story single-family residence. The height of the existing structure will increase by approximately 6 feet 4 inches (27 percent), and the floor area will increase by approximately 10 percent. The existing structure is approximately 22 feet 8 inches in height and the proposed structure would reach a maximum height of 29 feet. The project includes raising the bulkhead to meet the City’s standard.

4. The subject property is designated RT (Two Unit Residential) by the General Plan Land Use Element and is located within the R-2 (Two-Unit Residential) Zoning District.

5. The subject property is located within the coastal zone. The Coastal Land Use Plan category is RT-D (Two Unit Residential) - (20.0 - 29.9 DU/AC) and it is located within the R-2 (Two-Unit Residential) Zoning District.

6. A public hearing was held online on February 11, 2021, observing restrictions due to the Declaration of a State Emergency and Proclamation of Local Emergency related to COVID-19. A notice of time, place and purpose of the hearing was given in accordance with the Newport Beach Municipal Code (NBMC). Evidence, both written and oral, was presented to, and considered by, the Zoning Administrator at this hearing.

SECTION 2. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT DETERMINATION.

1. This project is categorically exempt pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 15303, Division 6 of Chapter 3, Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), because it has no potential to have a significant effect on the environment.
2. Class 3 exempts the demolition of up to three (3) single-family residences and additions of up to 10,000 square feet to existing structures. The proposed project consists of the construction of a new third story roof deck and an addition of approximately 280 square feet to an existing single-family residence.

SECTION 3. REQUIRED FINDINGS.

In accordance with Section 21.52.015 (Coastal Development Permits, Findings and Decision) of the Newport Beach Municipal Code, the following findings and facts in support of such findings are set forth:

Finding:

A. Conforms to all applicable sections of the certified Local Coastal Program.

Facts in Support of Finding:

1. The proposed development complies with applicable residential development standards including, but not limited to, floor area limitation, setbacks, height, and parking.

   a. The maximum floor area limitation is 3,216 square feet and the proposed floor area is 3,064 square feet.

   b. The existing and proposed development provides the minimum required setbacks, which are 3 feet along the front property line abutting 38th Street, 3 feet along each side property line, and 30 feet along the other front property line abutting the water.

   c. The highest guardrail is less than 24 feet from established grade (8.97 feet NAVD88) and the highest ridge is no more than 29 feet from established grade, which comply with the maximum height requirements.

   d. The project includes garage parking for a total of two (2) vehicles, complying with the minimum two (2)-car garage parking requirement for single-family residences with less than 4,000 square feet of habitable floor area.

2. The neighborhood is developed with a mixture of one (1)-, two (2)- and three (3)-story, single-family residences and duplexes. The proposed design, bulk, and scale of the development is consistent with the existing neighborhood pattern of development.

3. A Coastal Hazards Report and Sea Level Rise Analysis was prepared by Geosilos, Inc. dated September 28, 2020, for the project. The current maximum bay water elevation is 7.7 NAVD88 (North American Vertical Datum of 1988) and may exceed (or almost exceed) the existing 8.0 feet (NAVD88) top of bulkhead elevation during high tide or storm events. The report analyzes future sea level rise scenarios assuming a 2.9-foot increase in the maximum water level over the next 75 years (i.e. the life of the structure). Therefore, the sea level is estimated to reach approximately 10.65 feet (NAVD88) - (the likely range for sea level rise over 75-year design life of the structure based on low risk
aversion estimates for sea level rise provided by the State of California, Sea Level Rise Guidance: 2018 Update). The existing finished floor elevation complies with the minimum required finished floor elevation of 9.0 feet (NAVD88) but would not protect against future sea level rise up to 10.65 feet (NAVD88). However, once the existing seawall/bulkhead is raised per the report’s recommendations, flooding, wave runup, and erosion will not significantly impact this property over the proposed 75-year economic life of the development. Flood shields (sand bags and other barriers) can be deployed across the openings to protect and prevent flooding to the structure. The report concludes that the proposed project will be safe from flooding hazards for the next 75 years with the raised bulkhead. Therefore, the project has been conditioned to raise the bulkhead up to 10.65 feet (NAVD88).

4. Pursuant to NBMC Section 21.30.030(C)(3)(i)(iv) - (Natural Landform and Shoreline Protection), the property owner will be required to enter into an agreement with the City waiving any potential right to protection to address situations in the future in which the development is threatened with damage or destruction by coastal hazards (e.g., waves, erosion, and sea level rise). The property owner will also be required to acknowledge any hazards present at the site and unconditionally waive any claim to damage or liability against the decision authority, consistent with NBMC Section 21.30.015(D)(3)(c) – (Waterfront Development - Development Standards). Both requirements are included as conditions of approval that will need to be satisfied prior to final building inspection, and prior to the issuance of building permits, respectively.

5. The property is located in an area known for the potential of seismic activity and liquefaction. All projects are required to comply with the California Building Code (CBC) and Building Division standards and policies. Geotechnical investigations specifically addressing liquefaction are required to be reviewed and approved prior to the issuance of building permits. Permit issuance is also contingent on the inclusion of design mitigation identified in the investigations. Construction plans are reviewed for compliance with approved investigations and CBC prior to building permit issuance.

6. The property is located adjacent to coastal waters. A Construction Erosion Control Plan was provided to implement temporary Best Management Practices (BMPs) during construction to minimize erosion and sedimentation and to minimize pollution of runoff and coastal waters derived by construction chemicals and materials. The project design also addresses water quality through the inclusion of a post-construction drainage system that includes drainage and percolation features designed to retain dry weather and minor rain event runoff on-site. Any water not retained on-site is directed to the City’s storm drain system.

7. Proposed landscaping complies with Implementation Plan Section 21.30.075 (Landscaping). A condition of approval is included that requires drought-tolerant species. Prior to issuance of building permits, the final landscape plans will be reviewed to verify invasive species are not planted.

8. The project site is not located adjacent to a coastal view road, public access way, or Coastal Viewpoint as identified in the Coastal Land Use Plan. The nearest coastal viewpoint is at Newport Island Park and is not visible from the site due to intervening
structures. The site is located adjacent to the Rialto Channel, which is accessible to the public and provides opportunities to view residences and the channels around Newport Island. As currently developed, the existing property and other residences along Rialto Channel are located within the view shed of the channel. However, the proposed addition and roof deck comply with all applicable Local Coastal Program (LCP) development standards and maintain a building envelope consistent with the existing neighborhood pattern of development. The proposed addition is less than the maximum allowed for the zoning district and the third floor is setback from the front and rear property lines to reduce the appearance of bulk. Additionally, the project does not contain any unique features that could degrade the visual quality of the coastal zone.

Finding:

B. Conforms with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act if the project is located between the nearest public road and the sea or shoreline of any body of water located within the coastal zone.

Fact in Support of Finding:

1. The project site is located between the nearest public road and the sea or shoreline. Implementation Plan Section 21.30A.040 requires that the provision of public access bear a reasonable relationship between the requirement and the project’s impact and be proportional to the impact. In this case, the project creates a third-floor roof deck and addition on a standard R-2 lot. Therefore, the project does not involve a change in land use, density or intensity that will result in increased demand on public access and recreation opportunities. Furthermore, the project is designed and sited (appropriate height, setbacks, etc.) so as not to block or impede existing public access opportunities.

2. Vertical access to the Rialto Channel is available near the site along Marcus and Finley Avenues where there are access points at the street ends. Lateral access is available adjacent to the site along the Rialto Channel. The project does not include any features that would obstruct access along these routes. Any proposed changes to the existing dock or pier in the water would require separate review and approval by the City, and potentially a coastal development permit from the California Coastal Commission.

SECTION 4. DECISION.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Zoning Administrator of the City of Newport Beach hereby finds this project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 15303 under Class 3 (Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, because it has no potential to have a significant effect on the environment.

2. The Zoning Administrator of the City of Newport Beach hereby approves Coastal Development Permit No. CD2020-137, subject to the conditions set forth in Exhibit “A,” which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.
3. This action shall become final and effective 14 days following the date this Resolution was adopted unless within such time an appeal or call for review is filed with the Community Development Director in accordance with the provisions of Title 21 Local Coastal Implementation Plan, of the Newport Beach Municipal Code. Final action taken by the City may be appealed to the Coastal Commission in compliance with Section 21.64.035 of the City’s certified LCP and Title 14 California Code of Regulations, Sections 13111 through 13120, and Section 30603 of the Coastal Act.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 11TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021.

Jaime Murillo
Zoning Administrator
EXHIBIT “A”

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. The development shall be in substantial conformance with the approved site plan, floor plans and building elevations stamped and dated with the date of this approval (except as modified by applicable conditions of approval).

2. **Prior to final building permit inspection**, the existing seawall shall be raised to 10.65 feet (NAVD88) minimum in accordance with the recommendations provided in the report prepared by Geosoils, Inc. dated September 28, 2020 and as identified in the approved plans. All improvements shall occur landward of the existing bulkhead face.

3. **Prior to final building permit inspection**, an agreement in a form approved by the City Attorney between the property owner and the City shall be executed and recorded waiving rights to the construction of future shoreline protection devices including the repair and maintenance, enhancement, reinforcement, or any other activity affecting the bulkhead, that results in any encroachment seaward of the authorized footprint of the bulkhead or other shoreline protective device. The agreement shall be binding against the property owners and successors and assigns.

4. **Prior to the issuance of a building permit**, the property owner shall submit a notarized signed letter acknowledging all hazards present at the site, assuming the risk of injury or damage from such hazards, unconditionally waiving any claims of damage against the City from such hazards, and to indemnify and hold harmless City, its City Council, its boards and commissions, officials, officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all claims, demands, obligations, damages, actions, causes of action, suits, losses, judgments, fines, penalties, liabilities, costs and expenses (including without limitation, attorney's fees, disbursements and court costs) of every kind and nature whatsoever which may arise from or in any manner relate (directly or indirectly) to City's approval of development. This letter shall be scanned into the plan set prior to building permit issuance.

5. **Prior to the issuance of building permits**, the applicant shall submit a final construction erosion control plan. The plan shall be subject to the review and approval by the Building Division.

6. **Prior to the issuance of building permits**, the applicant shall submit a final drainage and grading plan. The plan shall be subject to the review and approval by the Building Division.

7. **Prior to issuance of a building permit**, a copy of the Resolution, including conditions of approval Exhibit “A” shall be incorporated into the Building Division and field sets of plans.

8. No demolition or construction materials, equipment debris, or waste, shall be placed or stored in a location that would enter sensitive habitat, receiving waters, or a storm drain or result in impacts to environmentally sensitive habitat areas, streams, the beach,
wetlands or their buffers. No demolition or construction materials shall be stored on public property.

9. This approval does not authorize any new or existing improvements (including landscaping) on State tidelands, public beaches, or the public right-of-way.

10. This Coastal Development Permit does not authorize any development seaward of the private property.

11. The applicant is responsible for compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). In compliance with the MBTA, grading, brush removal, building demolition, tree trimming, and similar construction activities shall occur between August 16 and January 31, outside of the peak nesting period. If such activities must occur inside the peak nesting season from February 1 to August 15, compliance with the following is required to prevent the taking of native birds pursuant to MBTA:

   A. The construction area shall be inspected for active nests. If birds are observed flying from a nest or sitting on a nest, it can be assumed that the nest is active. Construction activity within 300 feet of an active nest shall be delayed until the nest is no longer active. Continue to observe the nest until the chicks have left the nest and activity is no longer observed. When the nest is no longer active, construction activity can continue in the nest area.

   B. It is a violation of state and federal law to kill or harm a native bird. To ensure compliance, consider hiring a biologist to assist with the survey for nesting birds, and to determine when it is safe to commence construction activities. If an active nest is found, one (1) or two (2) short follow-up surveys will be necessary to check on the nest and determine when the nest is no longer active.

12. Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Good Housekeeping Practices (GHPs) shall be implemented prior to and throughout the duration of construction activity as designated in the Construction Erosion Control Plan.

13. The discharge of any hazardous materials into storm sewer systems or receiving waters shall be prohibited. Machinery and equipment shall be maintained and washed in confined areas specifically designed to control runoff. A designated fueling and vehicle maintenance area with appropriate berms and protection to prevent spillage shall be provided as far away from storm drain systems or receiving waters as possible.

14. Debris from demolition shall be removed from work areas each day and removed from the project site within 24 hours of the completion of the project. Stock piles and construction materials shall be covered, enclosed on all sites, not stored in contact with the soil, and located as far away as possible from drain inlets and any waterway.

15. Trash and debris shall be disposed in proper trash and recycling receptacles at the end of each construction day. Solid waste, including excess concrete, shall be disposed in adequate disposal facilities at a legal disposal site or recycled at a recycling facility.
16. Revisions to the approved plans may require an amendment to this Coastal Development Permit or the processing of a new coastal development permit.

17. The project is subject to all applicable City ordinances, policies, and standards, unless specifically waived or modified by the conditions of approval.

18. The applicant shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws. Material violation of any of those laws in connection with the use may be cause for revocation of this Coastal Development Permit.

19. This Coastal Development Permit may be modified or revoked by the Zoning Administrator if determined that the proposed uses or conditions under which it is being operated or maintained is detrimental to the public health, welfare or materially injurious to property or improvements in the vicinity or if the property is operated or maintained so as to constitute a public nuisance.

20. All landscape materials and irrigation systems shall be maintained in accordance with the approved landscape plan. All landscaped areas shall be maintained in a healthy and growing condition and shall receive regular pruning, fertilizing, mowing, and trimming. All landscaped areas shall be kept free of weeds and debris. All irrigation systems shall be kept operable, including adjustments, replacements, repairs, and cleaning as part of regular maintenance.

21. Should the property be sold or otherwise come under different ownership, any future owners or assignees shall be notified of the conditions of this approval by the current property owner or agent.

22. This Coastal Development Permit No. CD2020-137 shall expire unless exercised within 24 months from the date of approval as specified in Section 21.54.060 (Time Limits and Extensions) of the Newport Beach Municipal Code, unless an extension is otherwise granted.

23. To the fullest extent permitted by law, applicant shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless City, its City Council, its boards and commissions, officials, officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all claims, demands, obligations, damages, actions, causes of action, suits, losses, judgments, fines, penalties, liabilities, costs and expenses (including without limitation, attorney's fees, disbursements and court costs) of every kind and nature whatsoever which may arise from or in any manner relate (directly or indirectly) to City's approval of Dobson Residence including, but not limited to, Coastal Development Permit No. CD2020-137 (PA2020-282). This indemnification shall include, but not be limited to, damages awarded against the City, if any, costs of suit, attorneys' fees, and other expenses incurred in connection with such claim, action, causes of action, suit or proceeding whether incurred by applicant, City, and/or the parties initiating or bringing such proceeding. The applicant shall indemnify the City for all of City's costs, attorneys' fees, and damages, which City incurs in enforcing the indemnification provisions set forth in this condition. The applicant shall pay to the City upon demand any amount owed to the City pursuant to the indemnification requirements prescribed in this condition.