

**TO:** James L. App, City Manager  
**FROM:** Ron Whisenand, Community Development Director  
**SUBJECT:** Use of Septic System – 950 Walnut Drive (Thorndyke)  
**DATE:** June 19, 2007

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**Needs:** Consider a request to allow septic tank usage and replace an existing leach field at an existing single-family residence at 950 Walnut Drive, being the southeast corner of Walnut Drive and Union Road (APN 025-041-009).

- Facts:**
1. The property owners of the referenced property, located at 950 Walnut Drive, are seeking City Council approval to continue use of a septic tank and install a replacement leach system on their property (see application). The property is occupied by an existing single-family residence.
  2. Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 14.08.020, construction of any septic tank, cesspool, seepage pit or other facility intended or used for the disposal of sewage may be permitted only if sewer is not available.
  3. The nearest available sanitary sewer main is located on Union Road, approximately 500 feet to the west.
  4. Adjacent lots in this area are serviced by septic systems.

**Analysis  
and**

**Conclusion:** The applicant is formally requesting permission from the City Council for use of a septic system at the referenced location.

Municipal Code Section 14.08.070, K, 1 states that “Permission to construct a septic tank and leach line or other private sewage disposal system may be granted only when the provisions of this code have been met.”

Municipal Code Section 14.08.070, K, 2 states that “When it has been determined by the City Council that sewers are not reasonably available to serve a given property (generally more than two hundred feet from the property) which is within the City, the owner meeting provisions of this code, may request of the City Council a permit granting permission for the construction of a septic tank and leach line or private disposal system to serve said property.”

**Policy**

**Reference:** Paso Robles Municipal Code Section 14.08.070 – Sewerage System Operations

Resolutions No. 94-116 and 95-02 – Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) between the City and the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

**Fiscal**

**Impact:** None.

**Options:**

- a. Adopt Resolution No. 07-xxx authorizing continued usage of a septic system for an existing single family residence at 950 Walnut Drive (APN 025-041-009) subject to Conditions a through k as stated in Municipal Code Section 14.08.070 K 4 “Conditions”.
- b. Deny the request of continued use of a septic system at their property at 950 Walnut Drive, and direct them to extend a sanitary sewer main from the end of the existing sewer main in Union Road to the subject property.
- c. Amend, modify or reject the above option.

Attachments: (3)

- 1) Application for Septic Tank Use, Thorndyke
- 2) Site Plan
- 3) Resolution



CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES
"The Pass of the Oaks"

RECEIVED
JUN 12 2007
Engineering Division

APPLICATION FOR SEPTIC TANK USE

Owner: MIKE + BONNIE THORNDYKE Date: Permit No.:
Property Address: 950 WALNUT DRIVE, PASO ROBLES
Assessors Parcel Number: 025 - 041 - 009

Permit Fee: \$240

City Council Approval: Resolution No.

Approved By: City Engineer Date:

AGREEMENT

In return to the City's approval for allowing me to use a septic tank system for my property, I hereby agree to:

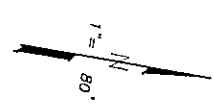
- a) Consent to future formation of an assessment district...
b) Connect said property to the city sewer system...
c) Construct septic tank and appurtenances...
d) Operate and maintain the private sewage disposal system...
e) Grant to the City authority to enter premises for periodic inspection...

- f) Grant to the City authority to enter premises in the event of an emergency involving the system or a nuisance created by the system, which, in the sole opinion of the City, County Health Department or State Water Quality Control Board creates a hazard, which threatens the health and safety of the citizens. The owner shall follow the instructions of the City and any service rendered pursuant to such instructions shall be paid for by the owner. When a health hazard or nuisance is determined to exist or water quality is threatened, the City may revoke certificates of occupancy for buildings utilizing the private system.
- g) Abandon private system a reasonable time when an order to do so has been issued by the City Council or its designated representative.
- h) When a sewer main is available and owner is directed to connect to said main, the owner shall reimburse City, or the installer through the city reimbursement account, for a prorated share of the cost of the installation of sewer mains which provide service to the applicant's property, as directed by City. City shall determine the rate of proration shares of reimbursement.
- i) Concurrently with the installation of a private septic system, construct a dry sewer lateral from building plumbing system to the adjacent right-of-way or property line as directed by the city engineer. The line, grade, size and provision for clean-outs of said dry sewer lateral line shall be reviewed by and approved by the city engineer.
- j) For private septic systems that are approved for permanent use, dual leach fields shall be installed with initial construction. A diverter valve shall be installed to control drainage into either or both leach fields. Each leach field shall be designed to handle one hundred percent of the design flow.
- k) For private septic systems that are approved for temporary use (i.e., five years or less), only one leach field may be required. However, an additional area shall be designated, tested for adequacy as a leach field for use and maintained free from any installation which could inhibit the potential use of said area as a leach field should the first leach field installed be determined by the state, county, or city to have failed or be inadequate in any way.

I hereby acknowledge that I am the owner of this property. This Agreement shall be binding upon my heirs and successors in title for this property.

SIGNATURE: Bonnie Thornbyke

Print Name: BONNIE THORNDYKE

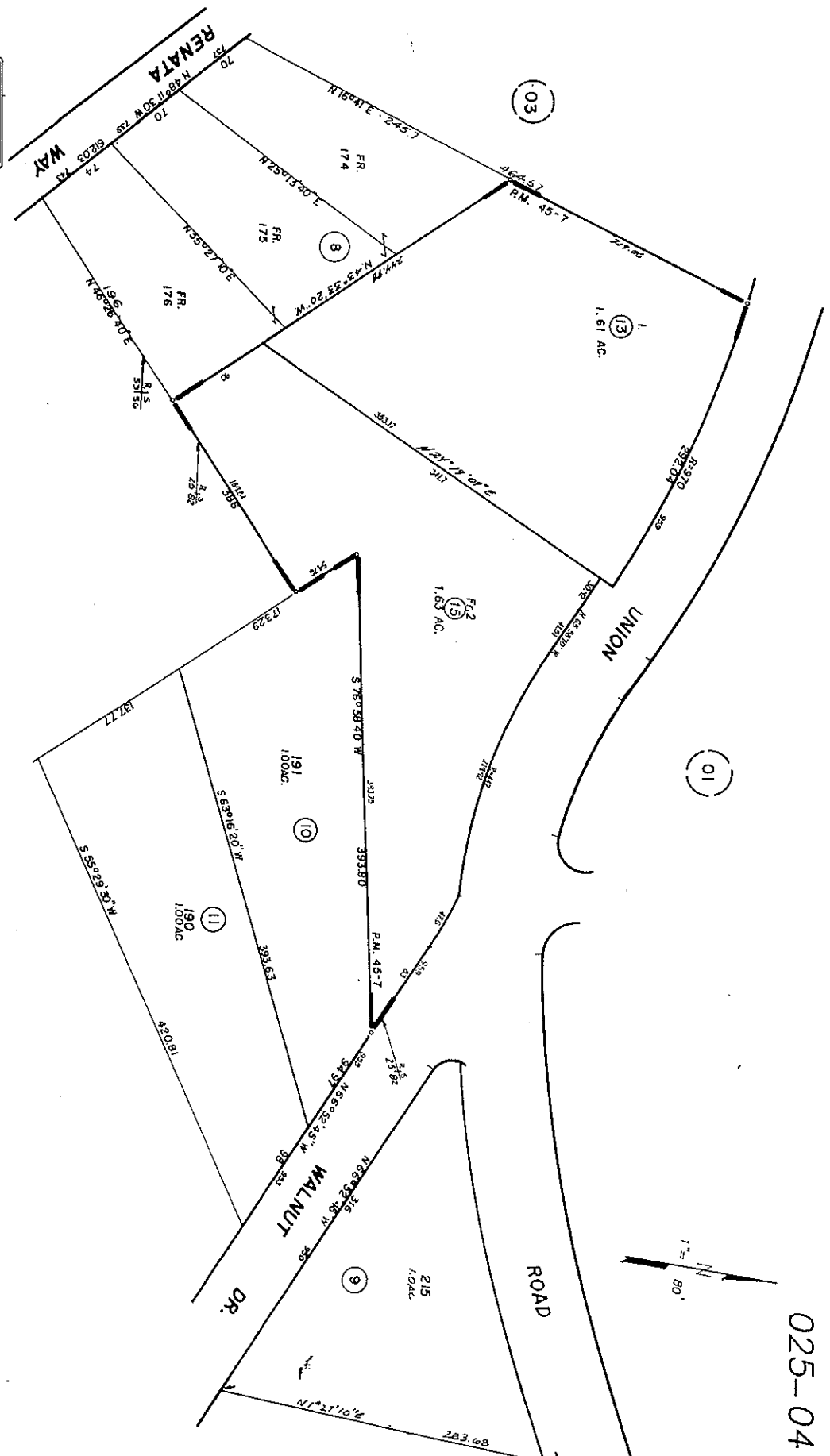


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 ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY.  
 02-01-00

ORCHARD BUNGALOW TRACT

CITY OF PASO ROBLES  
 ASSESSOR'S MAP COUNTY OF  
 SAN LUIS OBISPO CA.  
 BOOK 023 PAGE 041



RECORDING REQUESTED BY AND  
WHEN RECORDED RETURN TO:

CITY OF PASO ROBLES  
DEPT. OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
1000 SPRING STREET  
PASO ROBLES, CA 93446

ATTN.: CITY ENGINEER

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RESOLUTION NO. 07-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES  
AUTHORIZING CONTINUED USE OF A SEPTIC SYSTEM AT PROPERTY  
LOCATED AT 950 WALNUT DRIVE (THORNDYKE) (APN 025-041-009)

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WHEREAS, the City of Paso Robles has received an application to continue use of a septic tank for an existing single family residence located at 950 Walnut Drive, being the southeast corner of Union Road and Walnut Drive (APN 025-041-009); and

WHEREAS, Code Section 14.08.020 prohibits septic systems within the City limits, unless sewer facilities are not available; and

WHEREAS, the nearest sewer system is approximately 500 feet from the site of the proposed residence; and

WHEREAS, Code Section 14.08.070, "Sewerage System Operations" states that sewers "are not reasonably available to serve a given property (generally more than two hundred feet from the property)".

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the City Council approves continued use of a septic tank at 950 Walnut Drive (APN 025-041-009).

SECTION 2. That the applicant complies with conditions as stated in Municipal Code Section 14.08.070, K, 4 as follows:

- a. Consent to future formation of an assessment district if said district is established by the city council for the purpose of constructing sewers to serve said property. Said agreement shall be in a form acceptable to the city attorney and recorded as affecting real property interests.
- b. Connect said property to the city sewer system, when available and directed to do so by the city council, unless otherwise specified by the city, such connection shall be completed within six months of the date of receipt of said notification.
- c. Construct septic tank and appurtenances in accordance with requirements of the State Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Basin, County Health Department, Uniform Plumbing Code as modified within Title 17 of this code, and department of public works standard details and specifications.
- d. Operate and maintain the private sewage disposal system and facilities in a sanitary manner at all times, at no expense to the city.
- e. Grant to the city authority to enter premises for periodic inspection to ensure proper operation and maintenance. Said authority shall be conveyed in writing by the owner of the property and shall be binding upon all future owners, heirs, lessees, or occupants.

- f. Grant to the city authority to enter premises in the event of an emergency involving the system or a nuisance created by the system, which, in the sole opinion of the city, county health department or State Water Quality Control Board creates a hazard, which threatens the health and safety of the citizens. The owner shall follow the instructions of the city, and any service rendered pursuant to such instructions shall be paid for by the owner. When a health hazard or nuisance is determined to exist or water quality is threatened, the city may revoke certificates of occupancy for buildings utilizing the private system.
- g. Abandon private system in the time established in this section when an order to do so has been issued by the City Council or its designated representative.
- h. When a sewer main is available and owner is directed to connect to said main, the owner shall reimburse city, or the installer through the city reimbursement account, for a prorated share of the cost of the installation of sewer mains, which provide service to the applicant's property, as, directed by city. City shall determine the rate of proration shares of reimbursement.
- i. Concurrently with the installation of a private septic system, construct a dry sewer lateral from building plumbing system to the adjacent right-of-way or property line as directed by the city engineer. The line, grade, size and provision for clean-outs of said dry sewer lateral line shall be reviewed by and approved by the city engineer.
- j. For private septic systems that are approved for permanent use, dual leach fields shall be installed with initial construction. A diverter valve shall be installed to control drainage into either or both leach fields. Each leach field shall be designed to handle one hundred percent of the design flow.
- k. For private septic systems that are approved for temporary use (i.e., five years or less), only one leach field may be required. However, an additional area shall be designated, tested for adequacy as a leach field for use and maintained free from any installation which could inhibit the potential use of said area as a leach field should the first leach field installed be determined by the state, county, or city to have failed or be inadequate in any way.

SECTION 3. The obligations and covenants of the applicant shall run with the land and shall be binding on the successors and assigns of the applicant and shall inure to the benefit of the City of Paso Robles, its successors and assigns.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk of the City of Paso Robles cause a certified copy of this Resolution to be recorded in the Office of the County Recorder of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Paso Robles this 19th day of June 2007 by the following vote:

AYES:  
 NOES:  
 ABSTAIN:  
 ABSENT:

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Frank R. Mecham, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Deborah D. Robinson, Deputy City Clerk