To: Planning Commission
From: Casey Stewart, Planning Manager (Development Review)
Date: $\quad$ March 8, 2023
Re: Modification to prior YWCA conditional use for additional fence height (conditional use petition 410-08-09 from 2008)

REQUEST: YWCA Utah, located at 322 E 300 South, has submitted a request to modify the original conditional use granted to them in 2008 for their campus development and operations. Their focus is supporting women and children by providing comprehensive violence services, safety and support. The modification is to allow for taller fence height, up to 8 feet. The applicant wants to install taller fences in certain areas of the campus to improve security for their clients/customers.

ACTION REQUIRED: Review the applicant's description and plans for increased fence height and decide whether the situation warrants approval as a modification to the original conditional use.

CODE DISCUSSION: The request is being reviewed under Section 21A.40.120.E.4.i of the city zoning ordinance (language and link below) which potentially allows for fences to exceed the height limits when the fence is part of a conditional use and where the additional height would help mitigate adverse impacts. This modification request does not require a public hearing because no building expansion (increase in floor area) is involved.
i. Conditional Uses. A fence, wall, or hedge may exceed the allowable height requirements of this Chapter where additional fence height is imposed as a reasonable condition to mitigate the anticipated detrimental effects of a conditional use. Where such additional height is imposed as a reasonable condition, such height shall not exceed the minimum height necessary to mitigate the anticipated detrimental effects of the conditional use.

21A.40.120: REGULATION OF FENCES, WALLS AND HEDGES: (amlegal.com)
RECOMMENDATION: Based on the applicant's information and reasons for the increased height, which include mitigating safety concerns of YWCA clients by deterring potential perpetrators from accessing the site and increasing the general safety of the surrounding area, planning staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve the requested modification to the original YWCA conditional use petition 410-08-09.

[^0]322 E 300 S
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
www.ywcautah.org

Dear Planning Commission,
Beginning in 2008, YWCA Utah undertook a major campus expansion and site updates which were approved as a Conditional Use by the Planning Commission under Petition 410-08-09 (YWCA Campus of Salt Lake City Conditional Use/Planned Development-a request by the YWCA of SLC to redevelop and expand their operation at their current location at approximately 322 East 300 South. In an effort to have a greater outreach to the community, and replace inadequate facilities, the YWCA proposes to construct two new buildings on the campus which will be women's crisis shelters and residences and will include support spaces. The subject site is zoned R-MU (Residential/Mixed Use District) and located in City Council District 4). This project allowed us to increase the capacity and reach of the critical domestic violence services we provide our community, including two modern shelter buildings, bringing our total footprint to six buildings on 1.68 acres in downtown Salt Lake City.

Providing a campus of safety and sanctuary for our clients is of the utmost importance. Our clients include survivors of domestic violence who are fleeing their homes and finding safety and shelter with us, as well as the students of our early education center, whose parents entrust us with the safety of their children each day. As an organization we are finding that despite the intentional designing of our campus, comprehensive access control, security cameras throughout campus, and diligent staff, we continue to face critical security challenges due to the open nature of our campus and multiple points of access - especially the open parking lot area between five of our buildings.

Our clients' abusive partners regularly use this parking lot to loiter, harass and threaten clients/staff, and damage property/vehicles - often in violation of protective orders. We also find that despite a six-foot fence at the interior residential portions of our property, individuals are able to regularly overtop the height of this fence and gain access to our most vulnerable parts of campus. These security breaches threaten the safety and security of our staff and vulnerable client population, including the 200+ children who either live or learn with us each day. YWCA Utah also must regularly engage the services of Salt Lake City Police Department to respond to these dangerous situations and events.

In order to mitigate the adverse impact these incidents cause YWCA clients, staff, and resources, as well as the adverse impact in causes the Salt Lake City's resources, YWCA Utah is requesting a modification of our 2008 Conditional Use approval (Petition 410-08-09) to allow for the installation of a fence in excess of current allowable height. The fence and access-controlled gates will be between our building at 322 E 300 S and 344 E 300 S, set behind the entrance of building at 344 E 300 S. To maintain the aesthetics of our campus and community, this project will also include complimentary landscaping. As recommended by the Department of Homeland Security's CISA Security Assessment at Fist Entry, we are requesting a height of eight feet to impede trespassers from overtopping the fencing and threatening the safety and security of our campus and clients. This additional infrastructure will allow for a dramatic increase of the safety and security of our campus within the constraints of our limited resources. Attached please find renderings of the proposed modifications.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please contact CEO, Liz Owens at LOwens@ywcautah.org with any questions or needs for additional information.

Best,
Nora Trinidad-Scholle
Chief Operating Officer
YWCA Utah






[^0]:    ATTACHMENT: Applicant's Request and Plans

