

Geologic Hazard Report Review Staff Review, Decision, Conditions of Approval Case File GEO 2024-03

Date: June 3, 2024

Case File: GEO 2024-03 Bartles

Property Owners: Terry and Sophia Bartles

Situs Address: 866 SW 8th St.

Location: Approximately 240 ft South West of the intersection of SW 8th St and SW Ebb Ave

Tax Map and Lot: 07-11-15-DB-09100-00
Comprehensive Plan Designation: Residential Urban Low Density (RULD)

Zoning District: Single-Unit Residential (R1-5) Zone

Site Size: Approx. 9,578 square feet

Proposal: Request to review a geotechnical report for an addition to a single unit dwelling.

Surrounding Land Uses and Zones:
North: Houses; R1-5
South: Houses; R1-5
East: Houses; R1-5
West: Pacific Ocean

Authority: Table 17.76.020-1 of Lincoln City Municipal Code (LCMC) 17.76.020 lists a geologic hazard report review application as a Type II procedure with the Planning and Community Development Director (Director) listed as the review authority. LCMC 17.76.040.A states that Type II procedures apply to administrative permits and applications and that decisions on administrative applications are made by the Director, based on reasonably objective approval criteria that require only limited discretion.

Procedure: The application was received on April 22, 2024. The application was deemed complete on May 3, 2024. On May 6, 2024, pursuant to LCMC 17.76.040.E, the Planning and Community Development Department mailed a notice of application to property owners within 250 feet of the subject property.

Applicable Substantive Criteria:
LCMC Chapter 17.16 Single-Unit Residential (R1-5) Zone
LCMC Chapter 17.47 Natural Hazards, Beaches and Dunes
LCMC Section 17.76.040 Type II Procedure
LCMC Section 17.77.090 Geologic Hazard Report Review



BACKGROUND

The subject property (site) is addressed as 866 SW 8th St and is in the R1-5 zone. The tax lot number is 07-11-15-DB-09100-00 and the site size is approximately 9,578 square feet. The property owners seek to construct an addition to the home on the east side of the existing dwelling. The site is currently developed with a single-unit dwelling. The request for the geologic hazard report review includes basic information regarding the existing location of the home, but no site plan including the addition has been provided for this review. This review will be for compliance with LCMC 17.47 only, the building permit will be reviewed for zoning compliance and compliance with this report.

Lincoln City's GIS mapping shows the site contains bluff erosion hazards. The site does not contain aesthetic resource, trails, floodway, flood hazard areas, or natural resource overlays.

COMMENTS

One comment was received from residents at 860 SW 7th Street. They had no position on the subject property, but expressed concerns about potential erosion due to tree and vegetation removal on a different site in the neighborhood. The comments regarding the commenter's neighbor, which is not the subject of this report, are not a criterion of approval and cannot be considered in whether this application is approved or disapproved. Conformance with the Bluff Hazard Erosion requirements for the subject property will be addressed throughout the approval criteria of this report.

ANALYSIS

*Chapter 17.16 Single-Unit Residential, Roads End (R1-5) Zone
17.16.020 Permitted uses*

Finding: All uses and development standards for the R1-5 zone will be assessed during the building permit process. The R1-5 zone does allow for the development of residential and accessory improvements. This requirement will be met during the building permit process.

*Chapter 17.47 Natural Hazards, Beaches and Dunes
17.47.020 Development in identified hazard areas*

- A. *Hazards Identified and Applicability of Standards. Specific natural hazard areas have been identified in Environmental Geology of Lincoln County, Oregon, Bulletin 81 (State of Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, 1973) and Environmental Hazard Inventory (RNKR Associates, 1978), and other sources. They are depicted on the comprehensive plan natural hazards map, as supplemented by Priest, G.R., and Allan, J.C., 2004. For purposes of this chapter, in cases of conflict between a cited source and the map, as supplemented by the 2004 Priest and Allan report, the map, as so supplemented, will prevail.*

Natural hazard areas identified in Environmental Geology of Lincoln County, Oregon, Bulletin 81 (State of Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, 1973) and Environmental Hazard Inventory (RNKR Associates, 1978) are advisory only. The city does not require analysis or mitigation for property identified as being in these hazard areas, but recommends that developers seek professional advice.

Finding: The site is in an identified natural hazard area. As stated in the code, the city does not require analysis or mitigation for property identified as being in hazard areas; but recommends that developers seek

professional advice. The property owners have sought the professional advice of Jake Munsey, of Earth Engineers Inc., a registered engineering geologist in the state of Oregon.

Development of property identified by Priest, G.R., and Allan, J.C., 2004, as subject to coastal erosion must meet the requirements of this chapter; however, the following activities are exempt:

1. *Maintenance, repair, or alterations to existing structures that do not alter the building footprint or foundation;*
2. *New construction or maintenance, repair, or alterations to existing structures on a portion of the lot that lies outside the coastal erosion zones;*
3. *Exploratory excavation under the direction of a registered engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer;*
4. *Construction for which a building permit is not required;*
5. *Maintenance and reconstruction of public and private roads, streets, parking lots, driveways, and utility lines, provided work does not extend outside the previously disturbed area;*
6. *Activities of emergency responders intended to reduce or eliminate an immediate danger to life or property.*

Finding: LCMC Chapter 17.08 defines development as the alteration of the natural environment through the construction or exterior alteration of any building or structure, whether above or below ground or water, and any grading, filling, dredging, draining, channelizing, cutting, topping, or excavation associated with such construction or modification; the placing of permanent or temporary obstructions that interfere with the normal public use of the waters and lands subject to this code; the division of land into two or more parcels, and the adjustment of property lines between parcels. The property owners are seeking to alter the natural environment with the addition to the existing home; therefore, the proposed development activity is not exempt and must meet the requirements of LCMC Chapter 17.47.

- B. Required Geotechnical Analysis. Development of all types, except beach front protective structures and natural means of beach protection, in coastal erosion hazard areas identified by Priest, G.R., and Allan, J.C., 2004, may not occur until an engineering geologist, certified to practice in Oregon, or geotechnical engineer registered and licensed to practice in Oregon, completes a review of the project site. To the extent the engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer deems necessary, the review shall incorporate analysis and recommendation of an Oregon-certified coastal engineer and of technical experts from other fields outside of engineering geology. The review shall be prepared at the applicant's expense. The geologist or geotechnical engineer must submit (electronically) the review to the city as a written report that, if written or last updated more than a year prior to the first building inspection, must be updated to reflect current conditions. In reviewing the submitted geotechnical report, the city may consult with, among others, the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, the Department of Land Conservation and Development, and a certified engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer. The city assumes no responsibility for the quality or accuracy of a geotechnical report.*

Finding: The site is in an identified coastal erosion hazard area. Per LCMC 17.47.020.B, development may not occur until an engineering geologist, certified to practice in Oregon, or a geotechnical engineer registered and licensed to practice in Oregon, completes a review of the project site. This requirement has been met by the property owners retaining the services of Jake Munsey, of Earth Engineers Inc., a registered engineering geologist in the state of Oregon, to review the site. Jake Munsey, of Earth Engineers Inc., conducted a geologic hazard and geotechnical investigation of the site and prepared a written report. The written report submitted with this application is dated April 19, 2024, hereinafter referred to as the Report. The Report has

been prepared and submitted prior to construction of the proposed addition, as required by LCMC 17.47.020.B. **Lincoln City assumes no responsibility for the quality or accuracy of the report.**

Report Contents. Any geotechnical report must follow professional guidelines established by the Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners, and include an explanation of the degree the hazard affects the property use in question, an explanation of the measures to be employed to minimize losses associated with the hazard, including, but not necessarily limited to, erosion control, vegetation removal, and slope stabilization, and an explanation of the hazard-associated consequences the development and the loss-minimizing measures will have on the surrounding properties.

For development activities of all types on a property in the coast erosion hazard zones, defined by Priest and Allan, 2004, except for beach front protective structures and natural means of ocean beach protection, the geotechnical report must include, but is not limited, to the following items:

1. Site Description.

- a. The history of the site and surrounding areas, such as previous riprap or dune grading permits, erosion events, exposed trees on the beach, or other relevant local knowledge of the site.*

Finding: The Report provides a site description at the bottom of page 11 stating “The majority of the parcel generally consists of flat topography (including beyond the western edge of the property for approximately 25 feet before the edge of the bluff as shown in Figure 1). The bluff generally descends at an approximate 1.25 Horizontal:1Vertical (1.25H:1V) slope as shown in the below Figure 10. Elevations provided by DOGAMI LiDAR (<https://pubs.oregon.gov/dogami/ldq/LDQ-45124A1.zip>) show the relatively flat property at an elevation of approximately 136 feet and the base of the bluff at an elevation of approximately 20 feet (NAVD 88).” Page 12 states “There is no SPS at the base of the bluff, and there is notable signage (Photo 6) warning of potential landslide risks”. (SPS = shoreline protective structure) The required information is provided.

- b. Topography, including elevations and slopes on the property.*

Finding: Page 12 of the Report states “The majority of the parcel generally consists of flat topography (including beyond the western edge of the property for approximately 25 feet before the edge of the bluff as shown in Figure 1). The bluff generally descends at an approximate 1.25 Horizontal:1Vertical (1.25H:1V) slope as shown in the below Figure 10. Elevations provided by DOGAMI LiDAR (<https://pubs.oregon.gov/dogami/ldq/LDQ-45124A1.zip>) show the relatively flat property at an elevation of approximately 136 feet and the base of the bluff at an elevation of approximately 20 feet (NAVD 88).” The requirement to provide the information on topography, including elevations and slopes on the property, is met.

- c. Vegetation cover.*

Finding: Page 12 of the Report states “The bluff is vegetated with grass and small shrubs, typical of most adjacent bluffs to the north and south. The bluff slopes are sparsely vegetated with large shrubs near the top of the slope and beach grasses and shrubs at the base of the slope.” Pictures of the site indicate the location of the addition is currently paved.” The requirement to provide information on the site’s vegetation cover is met.

- d. Subsurface materials – the nature of the rocks and soils.*

Finding: Page 3 of the Report states “The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Soil Survey provides geographical information of the soils in Lincoln County as well as summarizing various properties

of the soils. Within the planned building addition areas on the property, the soil is mapped as 35E-Lint silt loam, 5 to 25 percent slopes. These soils form on marine terraces with the parent material consisting of alluvial and aeolian deposits derived from mixed sources, and is a well-drained soil, with low shrink-swell potential.” Accordingly, the requirement to provide information on the site’s subsurface materials is met.

e. Conditions of the seaward front of the property, particularly for sites having a sea cliff.

Finding: The Report provides multiple photos of the seaward edge of the property and describes the vegetation cover, soil conditions, and topography on page 12. This requirement has been met.

f. Presence of drift logs or other flotsam on or within the property.

Finding: Page 15 of the Report states “As mentioned previously, we generally observed large pieces of drift wood deposited by waves at the base of the bluff indicating that wave runoff currently makes it to at least that point and causes erosion; however, we did not see any drift wood above the base of the slope.” Staff concludes this required information is provided.

g. Description of streams or other drainage that might influence erosion or locally reduce the level of the beach.

Finding: The Report does not note any drainage or streams near the site that would influence local erosion. No streams or drainage ways are present in the photos of the site or bluff edge. This requirement has been met.

h. Proximity of nearby headlands that might block the long shore movement of beach sediments, thereby affecting the level of the beach in front of the property.

Finding: The report provides context regarding the local geology, geography, and existing natural conditions. No mention of any headlands that would block the longshore movement of beach sediments was noted as a significant factor at the site. The requirement to provide information on the proximity of nearby headlands is met.

i. Description of any shore protection structures that may exist on the property or on nearby properties.

Finding: Page 12 of the Report states “There is no SPS at the base of the bluff, and there is notable signage (Photo 6) warning of potential landslide risks.” The requirement to provide a description of any shore protection structures that may exist on the property or on nearby properties is met.

j. Presence of pathways or stairs from the property to the beach.

Finding: No stairs or pathways are noted in the report, nor are any visible in the pictures of the site and bluff. The requirement to provide information on the presence of pathways or stairs is met.

k. Existing human impacts on the site, particularly those that might alter the resistance to wave attack.

Finding: Page 14 of the Report states “While there is no shoreline protection structure to prevent bluff erosion signage has been placed to keep people from climbing onto the bluffs. At the time of our site visit, it appears that the signs do little to prevent people from climbing the bluffs as evidenced by carvings onto the soft rock relatively high on the bluff.” The requirement to provide information on existing human impacts on the site is met.

2. *Description of the Fronting Beach.*

a. *Average widths of the beach during the summer and winter.*

Finding: Pages 13 of the Report states “Based on aerial photos between 1994 and 2019 provided on Google Earth, the beach adjacent the subject property site varies in width from approximately 250 to 450 feet wide in the summer, and approximately 100 to 250 feet wide in the winter.” The requirement to provide width information has been met.

b. *Median grain size of beach sediment.*

Finding: Page 13 of the Report states “The median beach sediment grain size is fine- to medium-grained sand. Peterson and Kingen (2021) indicate a mean grain size of 0.183-mm for the Road’s End area.” The requirement to provide information about the median grain size is met.

c. *Average beach slopes during the summer and winter.*

Finding: Page 13 of the Report states “The typical beach slopes at this location vary from approximately 2 to 3 degrees westward based on elevations (NAV 88) derived from DOGAMI LiDAR. As typical of the Oregon Coast, the conditions are dynamic and can change substantially in a relatively short period of time, particularly during El Nino and La Nina events.” The requirement to provide information on the average beach slopes during the summer and winter is met.

d. *Elevations above mean sea level of the beach at the seaward edge of the property during summer and winter.*

Finding: Page 13 of the Report states “Elevations provided by DOGAMI LiDAR show the contact between the beach and the toe of the bluff (approximately 195 feet west of the west property boundary) between 17- and 18-foot elevation (NAVD 88). The property is set back from the edge of the bluff at an elevation of approximately 136 feet (NAVD 88)” The requirement to provide information on elevations above mean sea level is met.

e. *Presence of rip currents and rip embayment that can locally reduce the elevation of the fronting beach.*

Finding: Page 14 states: “Rip currents are common on this part of the Oregon Coast, and rip embayments regularly set up and form in the Lincoln City area. The effects of rip embayments have been particularly severe in areas south of Lincoln City, with historical impacts of property and structural loss the Salishan Spit. Based on our review of available GoogleEarth satellite imagery (period ranging from 1994 and 2019), we did not observe a prevalence of rip embayments in the vicinity of the subject site on the images from this period.” With the provided information, the staff finds that the intent of this requirement has been met.

f. *Presence of rock outcrops and sea stacks, both offshore and within the beach zone.*

Finding: Page 14 of the report states “Rock outcrops do exist at beach level, and appear to consist of metamorphosed basalt. No sea stacks were observed at or near the site location.” This requirement has been met.

g. *Information regarding the depth of beach sand down to bedrock at the seaward edge of the property.*

Finding: Page 14 of the Report states “Bedrock was not observed at the time our visual reconnaissance. Based on our experience in the vicinity of the subject property, it is anticipated that depth to bedrock could be from approximately 0 to 10 feet below observed beach level.” This requirement has been met.

3. *Analysis of Erosion and Flooding Potential.*

a. *Analysis of DOGAMI beach monitoring data available for the site.*

Finding: Page 14 states “We reviewed available DOGAMI beach monitoring data (Allan and Hart, 2005) pertinent to this location. In the vicinity of the subject property, there was relative consistency in beach elevation for the years monitored (1997, 1998, and 2002).” The requirement to provide information on an analysis of DOGAMI beach monitoring data is met.

b. *Analysis of human activities affecting shoreline erosion.*

Finding: Page 14 of the Report states “While there is no shoreline protection structure to prevent bluff erosion, signage has been placed to keep people from climbing onto the bluffs. At the time of our site visit, it appears that the signs do little to prevent people from climbing the bluffs as evidenced by carvings onto the soft rock relatively high on the bluff.” The requirement to provide information on analysis of human activities is met.

c. *Analysis of possible mass wasting, including weathering processes, land sliding or slumping.*

Finding: Page 14 states “As previously discussed in this report, the site is not mapped on a known landslide and the site is not oversteepened and is essentially flat.” The requirement to provide information on analysis of possible mass wasting is met.

d. *Calculation of wave runup beyond mean water elevation that might result in erosion of the sea cliff or foredune.*

Finding: Page 14 of the Report states “We generally observed large pieces of drift wood deposited by waves at the base of the bluff indicating that wave runup currently makes it to at least that point (an elevation of 17 to 18 feet (NAVD 88)). The nearest water level data obtained from DOGAMI is located at the very north end of the Siletz Spit (approximately 2.5 miles south of the property). The data we reviewed suggest a Mean Low Low Water (MLLW) elevation of approximately -1 feet (NAVD 88) and a Mean High High Water (MHHW) of approximately 7 feet (NAVD 88), therefore, we would expect the wave run up beyond mean water elevation to be approximately 14 to 15 feet (NAVD 88).” The requirement to provide information on the calculation of wave runup beyond mean water elevation that might result in erosion has been addressed satisfactorily for the purposes of this report.

e. *Evaluation of frequency that erosion-inducing processes could occur, considering the most extreme potential conditions of unusually high water levels together with severe storm wave energy.*

Finding: Page 15 of the Report notes “DOGAMI (Priest, 2024) indicates that the average erosion rate is for Lincoln City ranges between 0.30 and 0.31 feet/year (0.19 and 0.37 feet/year, factoring range of uncertainty). We do not anticipate that construction will increase these processes, assuming construction is limited to the eastern portion of the site.” The requirement to provide information on the evaluation of frequency of erosion-inducing processes is met.

- f. *For dune-backed shoreline, use an appropriate foredune erosion (Komar et al. 1999) or time-dependent erosion model (e.g., Kriebel and Dean, 1993) to assess the potential distance of property erosion, and compare the results with direct evidence obtained during site visit, aerial photo analysis, or analysis of DOGAMI beach monitoring data.*

Finding: The site is not a dune-backed shoreline; therefore the requirement to provide information on the dune-backed shoreline is not applicable.

- g. *For bluff-backed shorelines, use a combination of published reports, such as DOGAMI bluff and dune hazard risk zone studies, aerial photo analysis, and field work, to assess the potential distance of property erosion.*

Finding: Page 15 states “As mentioned previously, we generally observed large pieces of drift wood deposited by waves at the base of the bluff indicating that wave runup currently makes it to at least that point and causes erosion; however, we did not see any drift wood above the base of the slope. Based on aerial images from 1994 to 2019, it does not appear that there have been any major changes to the position or general shape of the bluff toe in the last 25 years. As such, while we anticipate that while wave action is actively eroding the toe, it is relatively slow and gradual at this time.” This requirement is met.

- h. *Description of potential for sea level rise, estimated for local area by combining local tectonic subsidence or uplift with global rates of predicted sea level rise.*

Finding: Page 15 of the Report states “A review of NOAA data for South Beach and Garibaldi monitoring stations in Oregon (<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/>) show sea-level rise between 1.78 and 2.52 mm per year for data collected between 1967 through 2023. This rise translates to 0.58 to 0.83 feet of sea level rise per 100 years.” This requirement is met.

- i. *An estimation of the annual erosion rate at the site.*

Finding: Page 15 of the Report notes “Because the bluff is not protected by an SPS, the published estimated annual erosion rate at this location is between 0.30-0.31 feet/year, or 0.19 to 0.37 feet/year factoring range of uncertainty (Priest, 2004). Based on our review of aerial photos, it does not appear that the bluff has eroded substantially in the past 25 years. However, based on the published erosion rates, the bluff would have theoretically eroded 8 feet in 25 years. This indicates that the real erosion rate may be on the lower end of uncertainty (or lower). In reality, the bluff most likely erodes in blocks or chunks that break off during prolonged or extreme climactic events.” This requirement is met.

4. *Assessment of Potential Reactions to Erosion Episodes.*
 a. *Determination of legal restrictions of shoreline protective structures (Goal 18 prohibition, local conditional use requirements, priority for nonstructural erosion control methods).*

Finding: Page 16 states “As described above the subject property is not protected by a SPS. According to the online Oregon Coast Atlas, the subject property is not Goal 18 eligible either (i.e. the property was developed after January 1, 1977). Therefore, subject to permit rules of the municipality and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) Ocean Shores program, constructing a SPS is not permissible under current rules.” Staff reviewed the States Goal 18 eligibility map, which indicates the property may be eligible for rip-rap in the future. Further discussions would be warranted in the future if the applicant would like to pursue a

permit for SPS installation. The requirement to provide information regarding a determination of legal restrictions of shoreline protective structures is met.

- b. Assessment of potential reactions to erosion events, addressing the need for future erosion control measures, building relocation, or building foundation and utility repairs.*

Finding: Page 16 of the Report states “Based on the geologic hazard conditions at the subject property, potential reactions to erosion events and future erosion control may include vegetation maintenance/management. Additional measures to protect the existing structures could include retrofit of the existing foundations with deep foundation elements, and/or construction of retaining walls or a seawall” The requirement to provide information on the assessment of potential reaction to erosion events is met.

- c. An annual erosion rate for the property.*

Finding: Page 16 states “As previously noted, the published average erosion rate is for Lincoln City ranges between 0.30 and 0.31 feet/year with uncertainty range of 0.19 to 0.37 feet/year.” The requirement to provide the annual erosion rate is met.

5. Recommendations.

- a. Based on results from the above analyses, recommended setbacks, building techniques, or other mitigation to ensure an acceptable level of safety and compliance with all local requirements.*

Finding: Page 16 states “In general, based on our reconnaissance, review of geologic hazard conditions associated with the subject property, and our understanding of the project, we recommend that the proposed project can be performed at an acceptable level of safety and in compliance with local requirements. As noted previously, the proposed project does not include a reduction in the existing setback of structures.” The requirement to provide recommended setbacks, building techniques, and other mitigation is met.

- b. A plan for preservation of vegetation and existing grade within the setback area, if appropriate.*

Finding: Page 16 of the Report states “We understand that the project includes no changes to the existing grade on or adjacent the subject site, and that vegetation will not be impacted (and further, will be preserved and protected during project implementation).” The requirement to provide a plan for the preservation of vegetation and existing grade is met.

- c. Consideration of a local variance process to reduce the building setback on the side of the property opposite the ocean, if this reduction helps to lessen the risk of erosion, bluff failure or other hazard.*

Finding: The request does not include consideration of a local variance process, nor does it request a variance.

- d. Methods to control and direct water drainage away from the ocean (e.g., to an approved storm water system), or, if not possible, to direct water in such a way so as to not cause erosion or visual impacts.*

Finding: Page 16 states “We understand that the project includes the addition of an impermeable surface area (roofline); however, the area of the proposed addition is currently paved with either concrete or asphalt.

Therefore, the impermeable surface area will be the same after development as existing. If possible, we recommend that surface water should be collected from the roofline area and diverted from building foundations and walls, to approved disposal points on the eastern portion of the property, or discharged to a municipal storm sewer (if present). Regardless, the water should be diverted in such a way so as to not cause erosion or visual impacts. For new perimeter footings, subsurface drainage of the building perimeter using footing drains is recommended and the water should be discharged in the same manner as the surface water described above.” The requirement to provide methods to control and direct water drainage away from the ocean is met for the purposes of this application.

- C. *Compliance. Permitted development shall comply with the recommendations in any required geotechnical report and any report required by the building code.*

Finding: As a condition of approval and pursuant to LCMC 17.47.020.C, all permitted development shall comply with the recommendations in any required geotechnical report, as well as any report required by the building code.

At the time of footing inspection, or, if no footing inspection is required, at the time of the first building inspection, the author of the geotechnical report must certify that the development was constructed in accordance with the report’s recommendations.

Finding: Pursuant to LCMC 17.47.020.C, permitted development shall comply with the recommendations in the Report and any report required by the building code. Additionally, at the time of any required footing inspections, Earth Engineers Inc. shall certify that the development was constructed in accordance with the recommendations specified in the Report.

- D. *Bluff Setback. No bluff setback is required for public infrastructure, beach front protective structures, or natural means of beach protection. The footprint of any other new structure or any horizontal addition requiring at least one footing in ocean bluff areas must be set back from the bluff a distance of at least 60 times the average annual erosion rate (determined by the geotechnical analysis) plus five feet. The bluff, for this purpose, shall be determined by the city through inspection of aerial photos, the most recent LIDAR data, and the dividing line between the active and the high-risk erosion zones identified in the 2004 Priest maps referenced above. If the city cannot determine the location of a bluff, the geotechnical analysis, provided at the applicant’s expense, shall determine an appropriate site for the structure, if one exists. The bluff setback must be measured from the unaltered bluff edge, as based upon a recent (conducted within the 12 months prior to the date of the geotechnical analysis) topographic survey performed by a land surveyor licensed in the state of Oregon. If damaged, an existing structure that does not conform to the setback may be rebuilt in conformance with Chapter 17.64 LCMC, Nonconforming Situations. Reconstruction shall comply with recommendations provided in a report from an engineering geologist licensed in the state of Oregon or a registered geotechnical engineer licensed in the state of Oregon, or both, as determined necessary by the building official.*

Finding: The submitted materials included a survey map stamped by Jack L. White, a licensed land surveyor in the state of Oregon with S & F Land Services. The topographical data clearly show bluff elevations west of the site and the bluff edge. The Report uses an average annual erosion rate of 0.40 feet per year in the determination of oceanfront setbacks for the site. Using the annual erosion rate of 0.40 and multiplying by 60, then adding LCMC’s required additional 5 feet, the result is a minimum setback of 29 feet from the unaltered bluff edge. Based on the slope profiles and available contour and other site data, staff accepts the location of the unaltered bluff edge as shown on the submitted survey. The existing house and decks are all outside of the

required bluff setback. All analysis has been done in accordance with the above requirements, this requirement has been met.

- E. Other Policies That Apply. If structures to protect shorelands, beaches and dunes, or flood areas are proposed, comprehensive plan “Shorelands, Beaches, Dunes, Estuaries, and Ocean Resources” Policies 7, 8, 9, 21 and 22 also apply.*

Finding: The other policies do not apply to this request because no structures to protect shorelands, beaches and dunes, or flood areas are proposed.

Chapter 17.76 Procedures

17.76.040 Type II procedure

- A. General Description. Type II procedures apply to administrative permits and applications. Decisions on administrative applications are made by the director, based on reasonably objective approval criteria that require only limited discretion. Type II procedures require public notice and an opportunity for appeal, but do not require a public hearing or a public meeting.*
- B. When Applicable. Table 17.76.020-1 identifies Type II applications. Applications not listed in Table 17.76.020-1 may be identified as Type II by the director based on the general description in this section.*
- C. Pre-Application Conference. A pre-application conference is not required for Type II procedures.*

Finding: A pre-application conference is not required, nor was one held.

- D. Application Requirements. Type II applications shall:*
- 1. Be submitted on application forms provided by the department and shall include all information, exhibits, plans, reports, and signatures requested on the application forms.*
 - 2. Be accompanied by the required fee as adopted by city council resolution.*
 - 3. Be subject to the completeness review procedure set forth in LCMC 17.76.110(D) and (E).*

Finding: The required application forms and materials were submitted, along with the required fee. The application was deemed complete in accordance with LCMC 17.76.110.D and E.

- E. Public Notice of Application and Comment Period. Type II applications require public notice of receipt of a complete application with an opportunity for area property owners and other interested parties to provide written comment prior to issuance of the decision.*
- 1. After a Type II application has been accepted as completed under LCMC 17.76.110(E), the department shall mail a written public notice to the following:*
 - a. The applicant and applicant’s representative;*
 - b. The owners of record of the subject property;*
 - c. Property owners of record within 250 feet of the perimeter property line of the property or properties subject to the application, using the most recently provided property tax assessment roll of the Lincoln County assessor’s office as provided to the city to determine property owners of record; and*
 - d. Any neighborhood or community organization or association recognized by the governing body and whose boundaries include the site.*

Finding: The Planning and Community Development Department mailed the public notice of a complete application to the parties noted in LCMC 17.76.040.E.1.a through d.

- 2. The written public notice shall include the following:*

- a. *A brief description of the request;*
 - b. *The applicable criteria from the ordinance and the comprehensive plan that apply to the application at issue;*
 - c. *The street address or other easily understood geographical reference to the subject property;*
 - d. *Statement that failure of an issue to be raised in writing prior to the expiration of the public comment period, or failure to provide statements or evidence sufficient to afford the review authority an opportunity to respond to the issue precludes appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA);*
 - e. *The name of a department staff member to contact and the telephone number where additional information may be obtained; and*
 - f. *Statement that a copy of the application, all documents and evidence submitted by or on behalf of the applicant, and applicable criteria are available for inspection at no cost and will be provided at reasonable cost.*
3. *The failure of a property owner to receive notice does not invalidate the land use action if the notice was sent.*
 4. *Public notices for receipt of complete Type II applications shall include a written comment period of 14 days from the date the notice was mailed for the submission of written comments before the decision is issued.*

Finding: The written public notice contained all the information required in LCMC 17.76.040.E.2.a through f. The written public notice included the written comment period of 14 days.

F. Review Authority. The review authority for Type II applications shall be the director.

Finding: The Director reviewed the submitted Type II application.

G. Decision.

1. *Based on the criteria and facts contained within the record, the director shall approve, approve with conditions, or deny the request. The decision shall address all relevant approval criteria and consider written comments submitted before the close of the comment period.*

Finding: The relevant approval criteria are addressed in detail throughout this staff report. Consideration of the written comments received, if any, is given at the beginning of this report.

2. *The decision is considered final for purposes of appeal on the date the notice of the decision is mailed. Within seven days after the director has issued the decision, a notice of the decision shall be sent by mail to the following:*
 - a. *The applicant and applicant's representative;*
 - b. *The owners of record of the subject property;*
 - c. *Any person, group, agency, association, or organization who submitted written comments during the comment period; and*
 - d. *Any person, group, agency, association, or organization who submitted a written request to receive notice of the decision.*

Finding: Within seven days after the Director has issued the decision, the notice of that decision shall be mailed by the Planning and Community Development Department, pursuant to LCMC 17.76.040.G.2.

3. *The notice of the decision shall include the following:*
 - a. *A brief description of the request;*
 - b. *A statement of the decision and the applicable approval criteria used in making the decision;*

- c. *The street address or other easily understood geographical reference to the subject property;*
- d. *A statement that the decision is final, unless appealed as provided in LCMC 17.76.180;*
- e. *The requirements for filing an appeal of the decision, including a statement of the date and time by which an appeal must be filed;*
- f. *A statement that the complete file is available for review; and*
- g. *The name of a department staff member to contact and the telephone number where additional information may be obtained.*

Finding: The Planning and Community Development Department will issue the notice of decision that shall contain all the information noted in LCMC 17.76.040.G.3.a through g.

Chapter 17.77 Applications

17.77.090 Geologic hazard report and/or beach protective structure review – Natural resources development review

- A. *Procedure. Geologic hazard report, beach protective structure review, and natural resources development review are subject to the Type II procedure as described in LCMC 17.76.040.*

Finding: A geologic hazard report was submitted for review. Pursuant to LCMC 17.76.040, the request is subject to the Type II procedure and has been processed accordingly.

- B. *Submittal Requirements. Type II application submittal requirements are set forth in LCMC 17.76.040 and more specific submittal requirements are provided on application forms and checklists as authorized in LCMC 17.76.100, as well as Chapters 17.46 and 17.47 LCMC.*

Finding: The required documents were submitted.

- C. *Approval Criteria.*
 - 1. *See Chapter 17.47 LCMC for approval criteria for geologic hazard report and beach protective structure review.*

Finding: The submitted geologic hazard report has been analyzed against the applicable criteria in LCMC Chapter 17.47, as detailed earlier in this staff report.

- 2. *See LCMC 17.46.050 for approval criteria for natural resources development review.*

Finding: This standard is not applicable to this application for a geologic hazard report review.

- D. *Conditions of Approval. The review authority may impose conditions of approval to ensure compliance with the approval criteria.*

Finding: Conditions of approval have been imposed to ensure compliance with applicable criteria.

DECISION

Based upon an analysis of the submitted application and accompanying materials against applicable criteria, the Director concludes that all criteria have been or will be met, and thus **APPROVES WITH CONDITIONS** the geologic hazard report review request, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The developer, applicant, and/or property owner are responsible for compliance and conformance with all city, state, and federal requirements, rules, regulations, standards, and ordinances.

2. The 29-foot bluff setback line, the bluff edge, and the footprint of the proposed construction must be clearly depicted on the site plan and submitted as part of the building permit application, prior to review, approval, or issuance of the building permit.
3. The footprint of any new structure shall be placed to the east of the 29-foot bluff setback line, as measured from the unaltered bluff edge. Footprint is defined in LCMC Chapter 17.08 as the square footage of a building that rests, directly or indirectly, on the ground, including, for example, cantilevers, bay windows with floor space, and chimneys. The site plan for any structural permit shall clearly depict the unaltered bluff edge, the 29-foot bluff setback line, and the footprint in compliance with the bluff setback line.
4. Any horizontal addition requiring at least one footing in ocean bluff areas must be to the east of the 29-foot bluff setback line as measured from the unaltered bluff edge. Any site plan for any structural permit shall clearly show and label the unaltered bluff edge and the 29-foot bluff setback line, with clear depiction of any horizontal addition in compliance with the bluff setback.
5. The 29-foot bluff setback line, measured from the unaltered bluff edge, shall be flagged on the site by a licensed land surveyor, and the flagging shall remain in place until development is complete to help ensure that no development takes place to the west of the 29-foot bluff setback line.
6. A representative of Earth Engineers Inc. shall observe and approve footing and slab excavations prior to placing fill, or forming or pouring concrete, as Earth Engineers Inc. indicated in the Report.
7. Permitted development shall comply with the recommendations in any required geotechnical report and any report required by the building code.
8. Pursuant to LCMC 17.47.020.B, Earth Engineers Inc. or the applicant must submit to the city, an updated report to reflect current conditions if the first building inspection occurs after May 6, 2025. This submittal must be uploaded into the structural permit file through ePermitting.
9. In addition to city requirements for proper drainage and erosion control, plans shall incorporate proper drainage and erosion control, as discussed in the applicable sections of the Report.
10. Development of the site shall adhere to and comply with all recommendations noted in the entire Report and subsequent updates.
11. If there are any conflicts in the conditions, or with other City standards, the strictest shall apply.

Prepared by: Weston Fritz, Associate Planner

Approved by: 

06 / 14 / 2024

Daphnee Legarza
City Manager

Date