

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT STAFF REPORT

May 27, 2026

ZBA-31-26

GENERAL INFORMATION

Petitioner

Oleksandra Rymska

Requested Action and Purpose

Petition for a special exception to allow the short-term rental of a property

Location and Existing Zoning

337 21st Street East. Zoned SFR-1. (Council District 2)

Size and Existing Land Use

Approximately 0.53 acres, Single-family residential

Surrounding Land Use and Zoning

North: Single family residence, SFR-3

East: Single family residence, SFR-1

South: Single family residence, SFR-2

West: Multifamily Residential

Applicable Regulations

Sec. 25-39. Special Exception Use Permit

d. Decision-Making Standards for Special Exception Use Permit

The Zoning Board of Adjustment may approve a special exception use permit application only upon finding the proposed special exception use:

1. Complies with all applicable district-specific standards in Article IV: Zoning Districts;
2. Complies with all applicable standards in Article V: Use Regulations;
3. Complies with all relevant subdivision standards in the Subdivision Regulations;
4. Will not have a substantial adverse impact on vehicular and pedestrian safety;
5. Will not have a substantial adverse impact on vehicular traffic;
6. Is compatible with the character of surrounding development and the neighborhood;
7. Will not have a substantial adverse impact on adjoining properties in terms of noise, lights, glare, vibrations, fumes, odors, litter, or obstruction of air or light;
8. Will not have a substantial adverse impact on the aesthetic character of the area where it is proposed to be located; and
9. Will not have a substantial adverse impact on public safety or create nuisance conditions detrimental to the public.

Sec. 25-101.c.4.iv.d General Standards

1. Short-term rentals shall comply with all building and fire codes, and comply with all provisions of this Ordinance, including Article VI Division 2, Off-Street Parking, Bicycle Parking, and Loading Standards, and Article VI Division 10, Signs and Billboards.

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2. Short-term rentals shall comply with the standards in Sec. 10.8-13, Noise in residential districts, of the City Code.
3. Off-street parking spaces may be provided on driveways or within a parking area on the property.
4. The property shall contain a dwelling able to be occupied.
5. Commercial events or other large events such as concerts or weddings are prohibited on the property.
6. The rental of units for a period of less than 24 hours is prohibited

Sec. 25-101.c.4.iv.g Decision Criteria

When deciding on an application for a special exception use permit to operate a short-term rental use, the Zoning Board of Adjustment shall consider the following factors, in addition to the general decision-making standards in Sec. 25-39.d:

1. Whether the property is permanently occupied and leased in its entirety to one party for periods of at least 30 consecutive nights;
2. Whether the short-term rental use is proposed to be or will be the primary or accessory use of the dwelling;
3. If a short-term rental is proposed for a site that has been previously used for a short-term rental, the number of complaints, violations, and other departures from the standards of this Ordinance and the City Code that have occurred on the property; and
4. As part of its evaluation on the character of surrounding development and the neighborhood and other potentially adverse impacts of the use, the characteristics of the neighborhood and surrounding properties including the underlying zone district, surrounding land uses, the number of nearby short-term rental uses, the topography, access, and similar factors.

Sec. 25-101.h. Standards specific to commercial uses, short-term rentals.

1. The applicant shall provide the city with information regarding the number of nights which the premises was used as a short-term rental. If the city determines that the applicant has not rented the premises as a short-term rental in accordance with the spirit of this section, the city shall notify the applicant that the business license will not be renewed and, if the short-term rental was subject to a special exception use permit, that the special exception use permit shall be deemed null and void. In addition, the city shall not issue a new business license for short-term rental of the dwelling unit for at least one year from the date of notification of the decision to not renew the business license and void the special exception use permit.
2. In addition, if the use was permitted in accordance with a special exception use permit, the city shall determine whether there have been any verified complaints or violations. If there have been no verified complaints or violations, the city may renew the business license for one year if the business license has not been renewed and the special exception use permit has not been voided in accordance with subsection (1) above. If the city determines there have been verified

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complaints and violations, the city shall notify the applicant that the business license will not be renewed and that the special exception use permit shall be deemed cancelled.

3. Following cancellation of a special exception use permit for a short-term rental, an applicant may apply for a new special exception use permit for a short-term rental in accordance with section 25-39, special exception use permit, subject to the restrictions of this subsection.

SUMMARY

The petitioner is requesting a special exception to allow the short-term rental of a dwelling. Oleksandra Rymaska will be the primary contact and will be available 24 hours a day in case of an emergency. The petitioner has no prior short-term rental experience. The house is equipped with exterior cameras and keypads. The house is not owner occupied. The house has 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. The petitioner is requesting 8 adults and 2 vehicles.

Office of Urban Development, Planning Division: If approved, staff recommends 4 adults / 2 vehicles based on the existing driveway/off-street parking and occupancy as it relates to parking.

Office of Urban Development, Codes and Development Services Division: No violations found or complaints received.

Office of Urban Development, Building and Inspections Division: No comment

Office of the City Engineer: No comment

Fire and Rescue Department, Fire Administration: No comment

ZBA Petition for Short-Term Rental

This application is for a request to the Zoning Board of Adjustment to approve a Special Exception to operate a short-term rental. Prior to submitting this form, a business license must be submitted to the Revenue Division.

Have you submitted a business license to the Revenue Division?

Yes

Property Information:

Site Address:

337 21st Street East, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401

Numer of Bedrooms:

4

Number of Bathrooms:

2

Total Square Footage of Residence:

1700

Is this the Owner's Primary Residence?

No

If yes, where will the property owner stay when the home is being rented? If no, please explain how this property will be used when it is not being rented on a short-term basis.

Untitled

NO

Applicant Information:

Applicant Name:

Oleksandra Rymska

Supplemental Information:

On-street parking is prohibited while the dwelling is being rented on a short-term basis. Parking must be located on driveways or within a parking area on the property. No more than two vehicles may be parked tandem (one vehicle behind the other). Typically, two adults are allowed per vehicle.

How many vehicles are you requesting to park in your driveway or designated parking area during the short-term rental? How many adults are you requesting to rent to at one time?

Untitled

2

Who will be the primary contact in case of an emergency? Where are they located in relation to the property? Will they be available 24 hours a day?

Untitled

Myself, available 24/7, our house is only 12 minutes away from the rental house

What is the petitioner's experience managing short-term rentals? (ex. how many properties, location, any issues, etc.)

Untitled

Just starting, no prior rental houses

What security measures are in place for renters to prevent violations of City ordinances and protect the neighborhood? (ex. cameras, keypad locks, noise detection systems, etc.) Attach a copy of your rules and regulations for renters along with this application at the bottom of the form.

Untitled

Keyless entry: Unique keypad codes are issued per stay and deactivated after checkout.

Exterior cameras: Installed at entrances and parking areas only (no interior cameras).

Occupancy control: Guest count is verified; parties and unauthorized guests are prohibited.

Local contact: 24/7 availability to address any issues or complaints.

House rules enforcement: Guests must agree to rules prior to arrival, including parking and quiet hours.

Attachment: House Rules and Regulations for Renters (included below).

Supporting Documents:

Rules and Regulations:

House_Rules.pdf

Photos of Parking Area:

Front of the house 337 21st E.JPG

Additional Documents:

Once submitted, a staff member will contact the applicant using the email provided on this form. If more documents are required, the staff member will clarify what is required in that email. By submitting this application, you recognize the city will send public notification and place a sign on the property with information for the public.

HOUSE RULES

337 21st Street E, Tuscaloosa, AL

Arrival & Check-in

- Check-in is on or after 1:00 PM.
- Early arrival may be available upon request—please message in advance.

Guests & Visitors

- Maximum occupancy: 8 overnight guests (in compliance with local safety regulations).
- Total persons on the property at any time may not exceed 10.

Parking

- 2 parking spaces are available on the concrete driveway.
- No street parking (one-lane road).
- Unauthorized vehicles or street parking may result in towing at the owner's expense.

Smoking

- The house is equipped with smoke detectors.
- No smoking or vaping inside the home.
- Smoking is permitted in the backyard only.
- Please dispose of cigarette butts properly.

Quiet Hours / Parties

- No parties or events allowed.
- Quiet hours: 10:00 PM – 7:00 AM.
- Please respect neighbors and keep noise to a minimum.
- Excessive noise or disturbance may result in immediate termination of stay without refund.

Emergency Information

- Property address is posted inside the home.
- Smoke detectors are installed throughout the property.
- There is video surveillance system outside the house
- Fire extinguisher is located next to the exit to the backyard.
- In case of emergency, call 911.
- In case of fire, exit immediately and call 911.
- Do not block exits or tamper with safety equipment.

Pets

- Up to 2 small or medium-sized pets allowed.
- No crates or pet beds are provided.
- Pets may not be left unattended inside the home.
- Pets must not be on beds or furniture.
- Please prevent any damage (especially to leather furniture).

Cleaning

- Please place used dishes in the dishwasher and used bed linens and towels in the washing machine.
- No need for full cleaning—we handle that after checkout.
- Excessive mess or damage may result in additional fees.

Trash

- Please place all trash in designated bins.
- Do not leave trash outside or on the street.
- Follow local trash collection guidelines.

Check-out

- Check-out time: 11:00 AM.
- Late check-out may be available upon request.
- Turn off all lights before leaving.
- Lock the door by pressing any key for 2 seconds.
- Please send a quick message upon departure.

Compliance

- This property operates in accordance with City of Tuscaloosa short-term rental regulations.
- Guests agree to comply with all applicable local laws and ordinances.

Liability

- Guests are responsible for any damage to the property or furnishings.
- The host is not responsible for loss of personal belongings.

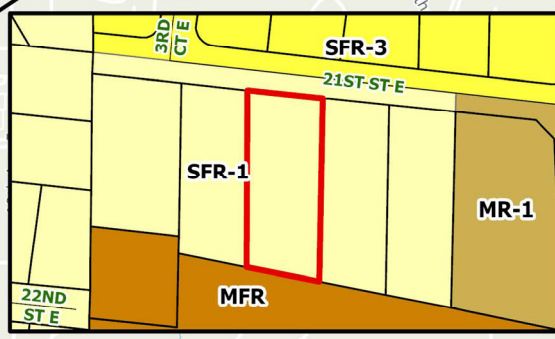
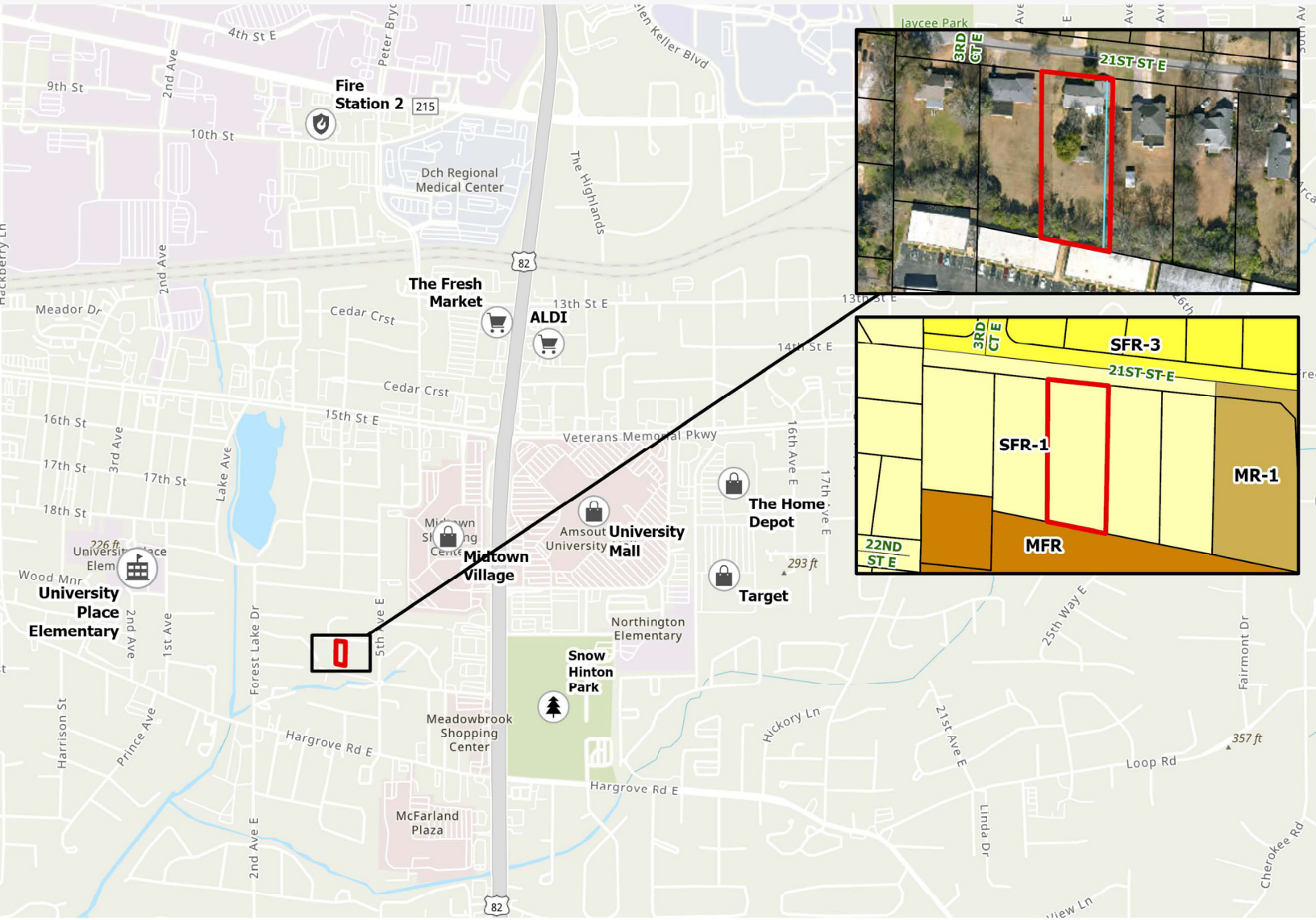
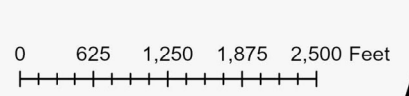
Rule Violations

- Failure to comply with these House Rules may result in additional charges or immediate cancellation of the reservation without refund.

THANK YOU!



337 21st Street East





337 21st Street East

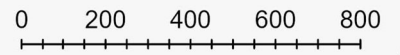
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337 21st Street East

1 inch = 350 feet



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