

# 23 Thyra Avenue letter

Laneway Housing Advisors



#1801-1 Yonge Street

Toronto, ON M5E 1W7

February 23, 2023

This letter will confirm that the property located at 23 Thyra Avenue in Toronto qualifies for a laneway house build in the rear portion of the lot, under Toronto's "Changing Lanes" program.

I visited the property on February 23, 2023 and confirmed zoning, siting, emergency access and other appropriate qualifications to certify its eligibility.

The maximum size of a permitted as of right build appears to be 1,098 square feet (over two floors - main and upper), with the ability to include an optional car garage on the main floor, with vehicle entry off the laneway.

Protection of one or more large, mature trees on or near the property may put some very mild downward pressure on the maximum square footage and/or force mitigation measures that will increase the complexity and/or expense of the build somewhat, in order to protect tree roots and/or canopy.

A basement is also possible here, adding to the square footage above,

but in most cases the floor plate of the basement will be significantly smaller than the ground floor and upper floors, the space cannot usually contain bedrooms or a bathroom or a kitchen, and the cost of basement construction can be significant. Tree roots might make a basement build more difficult.

Because of the relatively deep lot here, and a favourable positioning of the existing house on the lot, this property is somewhat rare in that it can support a laneway house up to the maximum allowable build here (1,098 square feet) while still allowing for some limited optional car parking *outside* the laneway house at the laneway. With this configuration, the owner could choose to build the laneway house with interior parking, or no interior parking (all living space), while still maintaining some parking on the property, outside the laneway house.

The relatively new (2018) Changing Lanes program from the City of Toronto allows qualifying property owners to construct a laneway house "as of right" on their property, with simple building permit application and no political approval or committee of adjustment approval required. No variances are required and no appeals or "neighbour vetoes" are permitted. The city also waives development cost charges.

Should you have any questions about 23 Thyra Avenue in particular, or the Changing Lanes program in general, please feel free to contact me any time, or visit our website.

Martin Steele

Laneway Housing Advisors - [www.lanewayhousingadvisors.com](http://www.lanewayhousingadvisors.com)

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