

From: **Audrey Lesondak** <aud.lesondak@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, 9 Mar 2022 at 08:44
Subject: 1221 Spaight Street Zoning Board Variance Appeal Support Letter
To: <johanna@johannacherry.com>

Dear Zoning Board:

I am the property owner and resident of the house just to the west of 1221 Spaight Street. I am writing to express my support for the dormer added to the southeast corner of the property at 1221 Spaight Street. The new owner, Johanna Cherry, has made significant and needed improvements to the property which has restored some of the original character of the house and enhanced its overall appearance. This is especially true with the removal of both the front and back porches which were in disrepair and not part of the house's original footprint.

The new dormer that was added to the southeast corner of the building has not affected the house's visual appearance and character from the street view. While the added dormer does alter the appearance of the structure from the backside of the house, this change is minor compared to what was previously there and nevertheless represents a significant improvement. The new dormer does not affect our sight lines.

I am an advocate for historic preservation of the older homes in the neighborhood. However, I recognize that the long term preservation of the historic neighborhood homes requires that changes be made from time to time that may have minor impacts on the exterior of the home but allow for homes to be adapted for more modern living. The layout of the previous bathroom was impractical and required a modification to accommodate today's lifestyles. The dormer addition to the backside of the house is a reasonable and negligible alteration made in order to meet this need. This is an adaptation in keeping with the kind of changes an owner might have made at the time the house was built.

Although I would have appreciated if the request for a variance had occurred prior to the start of construction; I recognize that with the back-log due to Covid, supply shortages, and challenges of managing construction, the need for a dormer may not have been known then and the feasibility of obtaining a variance earlier in the process may have posed a challenge.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Audrey

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