

Attachment B





NO PARKING  
STREET  
CLOSURE

3758











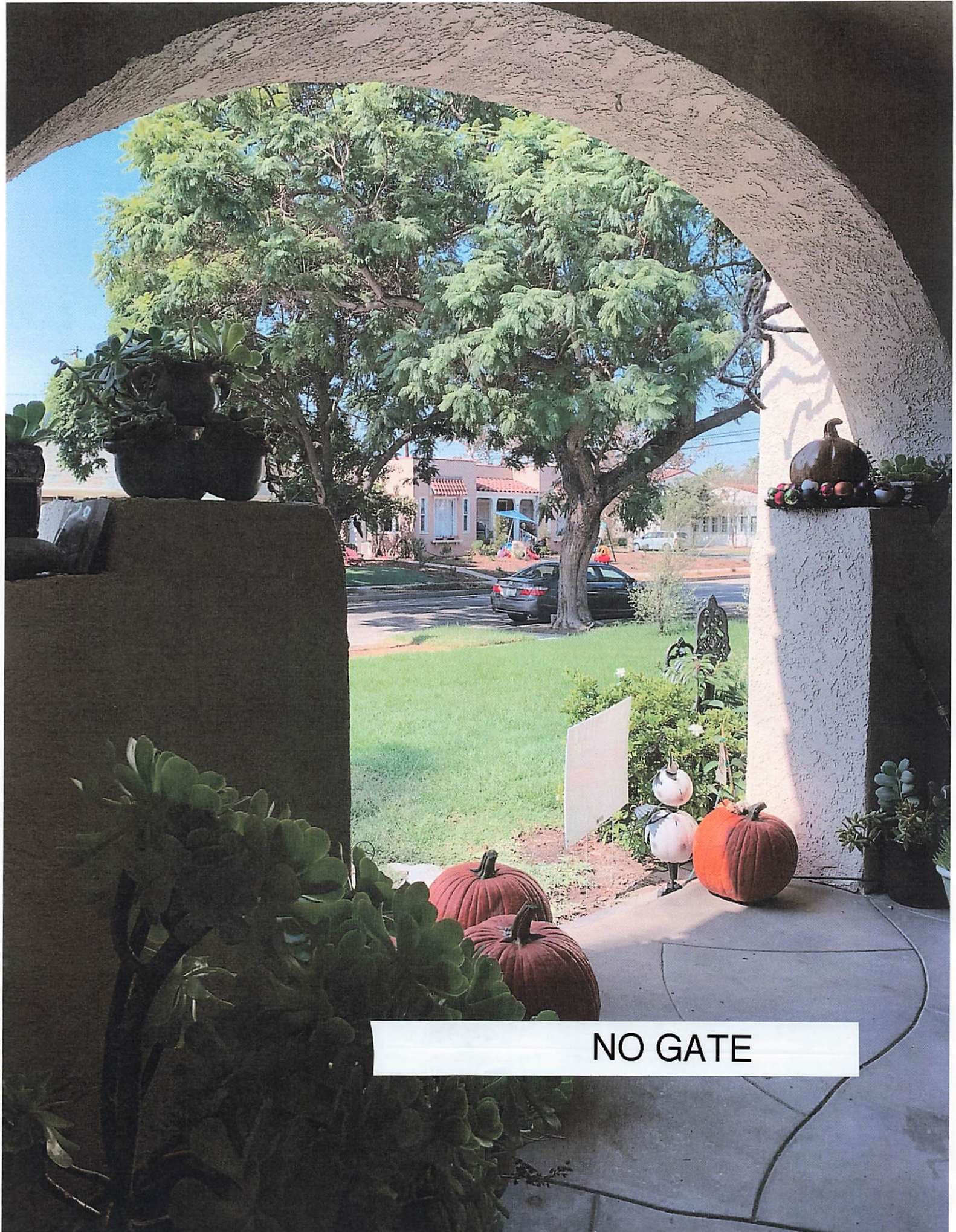


WE BELIEVE  
BLACK LIVES MATTER.  
RACE HUMANITY IS ILLEGAL.  
**LOVE IS LOVE**  
Women's Rights Are Human Rights  
SCIENCE IS REAL  
WATER IS LIFE

3758







NO GATE



NO GATE

# GATE COVERED PORCH

**From:** Elena D'Orio <[elenaleedorio@gmail.com](mailto:elenaleedorio@gmail.com)>

**Date:** March 10, 2022 at 2:48:57 PM PST

**To:** Gina Casillas <[Gina.Casillas@longbeach.gov](mailto:Gina.Casillas@longbeach.gov)>

**Cc:** Scott Ross <[Scott.Ross@longbeach.gov](mailto:Scott.Ross@longbeach.gov)>, Olegario Rodriguez <[Olegario.Rodriguez@longbeach.gov](mailto:Olegario.Rodriguez@longbeach.gov)>, Elena D'Orio <[EDOrio@tandlaac.com](mailto:EDOrio@tandlaac.com)>

**Subject:** Re: 3758 California Ave Appeal

Thank you for confirming Gina.

As you know there are several false statements throughout your notice.

For instance, the "white vinyl picket fence" is not nor has ever been attached to my home. It's a mobile doggie gate that keeps my dog in the back yard as my home was without a secure yard.

No one bothered to go over any of the items verbally. If so, that one error would have saved us all time and ink.

Thank you in advance for your guidance and support.

For your file attached are 2 photos of the original home which I bid on in 2016.

As I lost the bid, the previous owner made several modifications, including exterior paint including blue trim without pulling a permit.

While doing research apparently there is a side yard wall to my north including an arch connected on my home, crossing onto my property both built without permits.

I could have used any assistance, creating community, from city officials, as this is ALL very new to me.

This entire issue is disappointing.

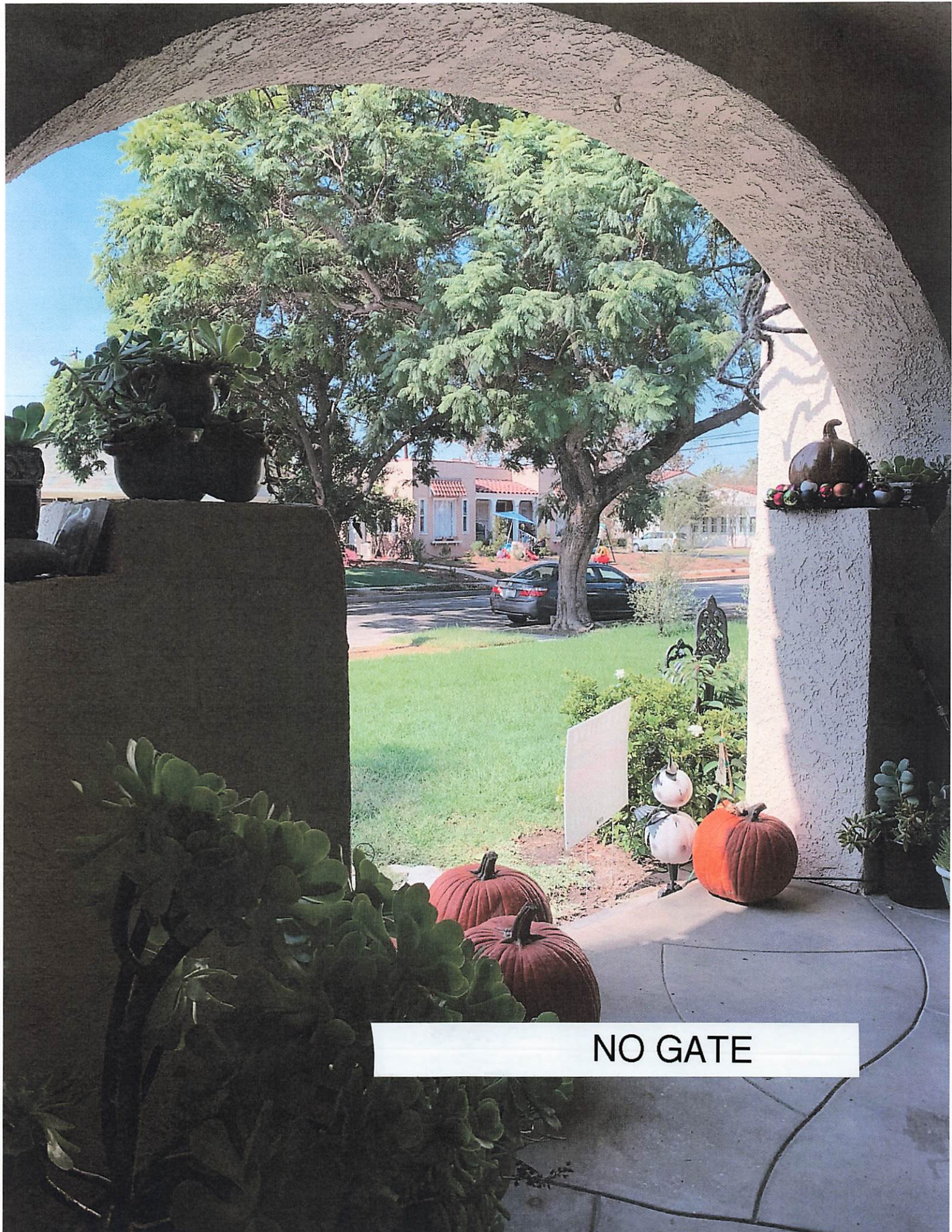
I am always available to chat.

Elena  
562.225.9210

3758



WOC  
|  
607  
|  
707  
|  
381



NO GATE



NO GATE



3758

PRE PERMIT 2016  
FIXED IRON GATE ON PORCH  
FADED PAINT TERRA COTTA  
NO FRONT PORCH ENTRY



2016





3758













WE BELIEVE  
BLACK LIVES MATTER.  
RACE HUMANITY IS ILLEGAL.  
LOVE IS LOVE  
Women's Rights Are Human Rights  
SCIENCE IS REAL  
WATER IS LIFE

3758



141 B  
Brewer

PHOTO PRIOR TO PURCHASE IN 2020  
WHITE PAINT BLACK TRIM BLACK TINTED WINDOW  
PURCHASED IN 2020

Attachment F

Before and After Photos



2016 COLOR CHANGE NO PERMIT



2022











FIRSTTEAM  
REAL ESTATE

Trina Rufo  
562.896.9716

REALTOR®  
SUNSHINE STATE







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REAL ESTATE  
Trina Rufo  
562.896.9716  
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L61071000

timehop

















timehop





Nest













Before and After Photos





**Pathway to porch features paving stones**

# REALTOR AD LISTING

## "VIBRANT HOME OPTIONS"

### MIRRORING 3758 CALIFORNIA AVE COLOR PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS TERRA COTTA HOME

Explore California Heights Long Beach Homes

California Heights – [Hot List](#)



California Heights offers Wonderful Historic Homes

#### \*\*[Get the Hot-List of Available Long Beach Homes](#)

When looking through Long Beach for the right neighborhood, it is important to put California Heights on your check list. California Heights, often referred to as 'Cal Heights', is a small area within the [Bixby Knolls](#) section of Long Beach. It is a wonderful historical area of Long Beach that is characterized by quiet tree lined streets. This is the largest historic district within Long Beach and includes 1500 homes. This [Long Beach neighborhood](#) was even voted the best neighborhood by Sunset Magazine in their January 2004 issue! And while this voting may have occurred quite some time ago, the residents of Cal Heights continue to enjoy it's rich history along with some of the most vibrant home options available in any of the historic districts.

*" This [Long Beach neighborhood](#) was even voted the best neighborhood by Sunset Magazine...*

Strolling through the neighborhoods you will find some wonderful architecture examples from Spanish Style homes to the ever popular California Bungalows and Craftsman homes. The original sets of homes were built in the 1920's although there are still many properties that were built in the 40's and 50's. If you are also interested in duplexes and 4 unit properties that have

enough character that would make you want to live in them, look closely as there are a few that become available

Get a map of [California Heights](#) to start mapping out your favorite streets to find just the right home in this neighborhood.

At any point in time during the year there are some great homes available, just like the ones featured here! Feel free to contact me anytime at (562) 989-7111 and I will be happy to send you my "**HOT LIST**" of the best picks in California Heights!

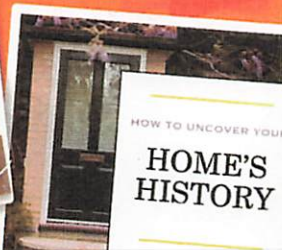
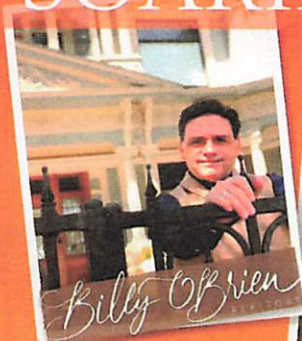
**\*\*Get the Hot-List of Available Long Beach Homes**



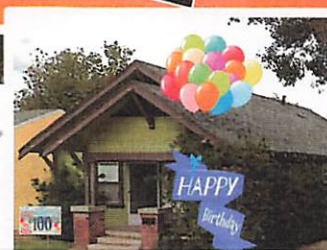
From Spanish Style, Bungalows, to Traditional Architecture, Cal Heights has Much to Offer

# HIGHLIGHTED SALES 3.8.2022

## SOARING IN THE HEIGHTS



LONG BEACH HISTORIC HOMES



A: COLOR B: DRIVEWAY C: WALL/FENCE

CAL HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTED SALES of Single Family Homes 12-10-21 thru 3-4-22

DEC - MAR

2021  
2022

\$890,000

3 bed, 2 bath, 1748



3443 Territos

\$1,040,000

2 bed, 2 bath, 1563



3529 Orange

\$830,000

2 bed, 1 bath, 1176



3502 Orange

\$959,000

3 bed, 1 bath, 1416



3619 Orange

Your Home...



... Here

\$1,170,000

3 bed, 2 bath, 1475



3505 Gundry

\$920,000

2 bed, 1 bath, 1128



3720 Olive

Congratulations to those homes celebrating their 100yr Birthday



3726 Olive : 3592 Lewis  
3579 Orange : 3585 Brayton  
3736 Falcon : 3750 Olive

"Based on information from California Regional Multiple Listing Service, Inc. as of 3/8/22 and/or other sources. Display of MLS data is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed accurate by the MLS. The Broker/Agent providing the information contained herein may or may not have been the Listing and/or Selling Agent."

DEC - MAR

NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE (Single Family Homes) 12-10-21 - 3/4/22\*

2021  
2022

9

Number homes sold in California Heights\*

39.1

Average days - listed date to offer accepted date\*

92

Longest period - listed date to offer accepted date\*

7

Shortest period - listed date to offer accepted date\*

↑

Highest close price: 4-bedroom, 2-bath, 1682 sq ft. \$1,170,000\*

↓

Lowest close price: 2-bedroom, 1-bath, 1,176 sq ft. \$830,000\*

3

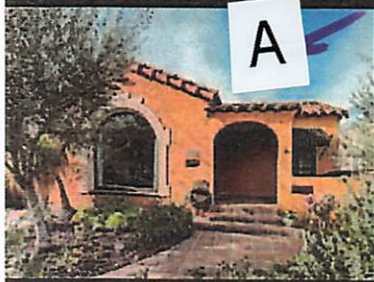
ORANGE Street with the most homes sold\*

5.8

The % of population growth in District 7 (2020 US Census)

BILLY OBRIEN REALTOR® | C21 Award | DRE# 01952648 | 562-726-4183 |  
HELLO@IAMBILLYOBRIEN.REALTORLONGBEACHCAHISTORICHOMES4SALE.REALESTATE. If your home is currently listed with another broker this is not intended to solicit that listing

# A: COLOR B: DRIVEWAY C:WALL/FENCE



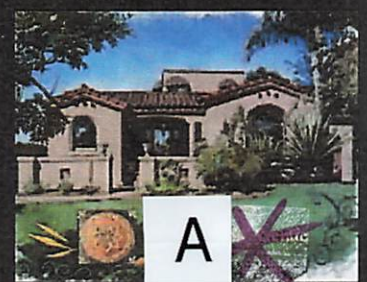
Long Beach, CA Recently Sold Homes ...  
realtor.com



Long Beach, CA Recently Sold Homes ...  
realtor.com



Long Beach, CA Recently Sold Homes ...  
realtor.com



Long Beach, CA Recently Sold Homes ...  
realtor.com



Long Beach, CA Recently Sold Homes ...  
realtor.com



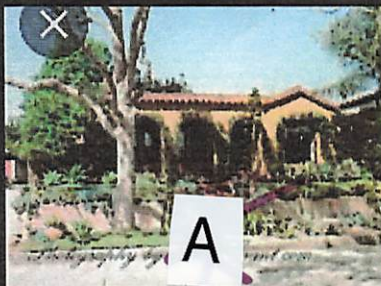
Long Beach, CA Recently Sold Homes ...  
realtor.com



Long Beach, CA Recently Sold Homes ...  
realtor.com



Long Beach, CA Recently Sold Homes ...  
realtor.com



California Heights Neighborhoo...  
firsttimehomebuyerrealestate.com



Recently Sold Atwater Village, L...  
estateately.com



3721 Lemon Avenue, Long Bea...  
compass.com



Mediterranean Montecito Hom...  
hauteresidence.com



California Heights - A Little Pie...  
showmehome.com

Wall/  
Paint



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\*

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\*

\*

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\*

\*

Joining  
wall

## Heather Flores

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**From:** elena dorio [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 3:13 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage; Historic Preservation; Alejandro Plascencia  
**Subject:** 3758 California Ave. Reply to opposition  
**Attachments:** IMG\_1387.jpeg; historical photo 3758 California.jpg; 3758 CALIFORNIA AVE 2016 FRONT PORCH METAL GATE FIXED .jpg; IMG\_1387.JPG; 3758 CALIFORNIA AVE 2020 FOR SALE WHITE PORCH FENCE AND ARCH .jpg; IMG\_2742.jpg; IMG\_2764.jpg

**-EXTERNAL-**

April 25, 2022

Subject: Long Beach Heritage response to Item 22-016CH on Cultural Heritage Commission agenda, April

In connection to the SAID **"vinyl gate on the front porch."** That gate has been a sore suspect for two years. I told Ms. Casillas more than once I inherited the gate from the prior owner. It was used as a marker defining the property line between 3760 and 3758 California, see attached.

The GATE has never been attached to my home.

Since inheriting it, NOT having front privacy or protection, I use it as a doggie gate.

I hope to never address the white gate again and take offence to it continually being used against me. What should be noticed is code violation at 3760 California Ave and the wood gate between our two homes including two black metal mail boxes hanging from it. THAT negatively affects the appearance of the façade of the STREET.

I hope The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for historic homes is opposed to altering the porches, driveways, and yards of contributing structures in historic districts for all homeowners and not just 3758 California Ave.

Elena D'Orio  
3758 California Ave.  
Long Beach, CA 90807





FIRSTTEAM  
REAL ESTATE  
Trina Rufo  
562.896.9716  
trina@firstteamre.com  
L61071000

timehop











**Heather Flores**

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**From:** Elena D'Orio [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 11:17 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Cc:** Alejandro Plascencia  
**Subject:** Application No. 2203-10 (APL22-02) 3758 California Ave.  
**Attachments:** D'Orio, E. Letter.pdf

-EXTERNAL-

Hi,  
Please add this to the appeal meeting.  
Elena D'Orio

Thank you,  
Elena  
[REDACTED]

April 26, 2022

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

**RE: D'ORIO, ELENA**

To Whom It May Concern,

Pursuant to the request of my patient, Elena, I am writing to memorialize that she has been under my care since 2012. Over the years that I have known Elena, she has had many responsibilities since her divorce, the loss of her sister and the loss of her 30-year career due to the pandemic. Elena is currently caring for her father and has been very responsible in his care. When she first purchased her current home, she had expressed her wishes to create a calm, soothing and warm living space and that she hopes to live there forever. Elena's renovations to her front lawn, while on a small budget, not only created a safe green space, it created community while supporting her mental health. Please consider this letter documenting my support for her.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

Sincerely,



NATHAN E. LAVID, MD, DFAPA  
Diplomate, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology

NEL: ty

## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Drake Cruz <drake4homes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 15, 2022 2:40 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Cc:** Gina Casillas  
**Subject:** Re: Oppose Legalization of Unapproved Work – 3758 California Avenue, LB, 90807  
**Attachments:** Lights.jpeg

**-EXTERNAL-**

My name is Drake Cruz. I'm a Realtor of 22+ years here in the Long Beach area. My license (#01295382) is at the Keller Williams Coastal Properties office here in Long Beach. I was recently showing properties in the California Heights neighborhood when I saw the Notice of Public Hearing at 3758 California Avenue.

I am strongly opposed to legalization of construction of the perimeter wall, and the other work at the above-mentioned address. In addition, the owners have strung outdoor lights from the house to the antique streetlight on the parkway which is City Property. How this has not been addressed before now is beyond me. Not only is it a safety hazard, it illustrates a complete lack of respect for our beautiful neighborhood. (picture below and attached)

As a former long-time resident of this neighborhood, I am well aware of how the continuity of historic neighborhoods is diminished by home owners seeking to 'improve' their properties. According to the historic guidelines perimeter walls are not permitted unless it is to repair an existing retaining wall. The color of the house is also not within the standards of the historic committee.

Asking for a variance is unfair to residents who work with the city and follow the guidelines outlined by the Cultural Heritage Commission. What is the point of the Commission if residents can do as they please and ask for forgiveness after the fact? It is imperative the historic integrity of the neighborhood be maintained, and this egregious disregard of the guidelines should not be allowed.

Thank you,



# Drake Cruz

REALTOR® | KW Coastal Properties  
DRE# 01295382

562-884-9016

[Drake4homes.com](http://Drake4homes.com)

6621 E Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 150  
Long Beach, CA 90803





## Gina Casillas

---

**From:** Foster Rash <foster.rash@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 17, 2022 1:55 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Certificate of Appropriateness  
**Attachments:** Elena's Improvements Letter.docx

**-EXTERNAL-**

Hi Gina,

Attached is a letter of support for Elena D'Orio who has run afoul of the Cultural Heritage Commission (Application Number: 2203-10 (APL22-02). I am her next-door neighbor. Elena has really spruced up her property and is an asset to the neighborhood. I would like to see the city give her a break.

Thanks

Foster Rash  
3754 California Ave.



To: Long Beach Development Services

via email: [Cultural.Heritage@longbeach.gov](mailto:Cultural.Heritage@longbeach.gov)

Dear Ms. Casillas,

I'm responding to the Notice of Public Hearing, Cultural Heritage Commission #2203-10 (APL22-02). These are my comments **in support** of the appropriateness of the property improvements made by Elena D'Orio at 3758 California Ave., Long Beach 90807. Just while walking the dog this morning I snapped some photos of other homes in the neighborhood between Bixby and Wardlow with similar features.

1. **Low perimeter wall, gate and steps.**

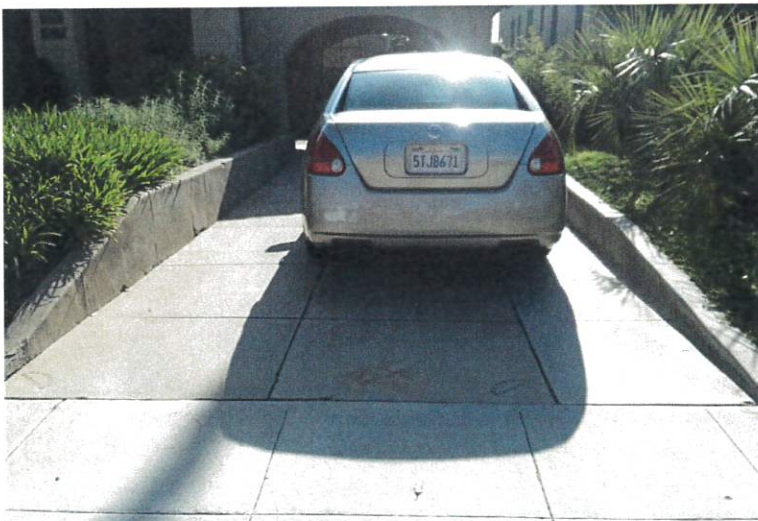
The additions at 3758 California have been constructed in a professional and attractive manner in keeping with the Spanish architecture of the neighborhood. Here are some photos other homes in the neighborhood.





**2. Removal of concrete curb abutting the driveway and installation of pavers alongside the driveway.**

My home at 3754 California was built in 1934 to the same floorplan and by the same builder as 3758. Cars were smaller then and these driveways are quite narrow. Having adjacent retaining walls to both sides of the driveway makes it impossible for people to exit from both sides of a vehicle.

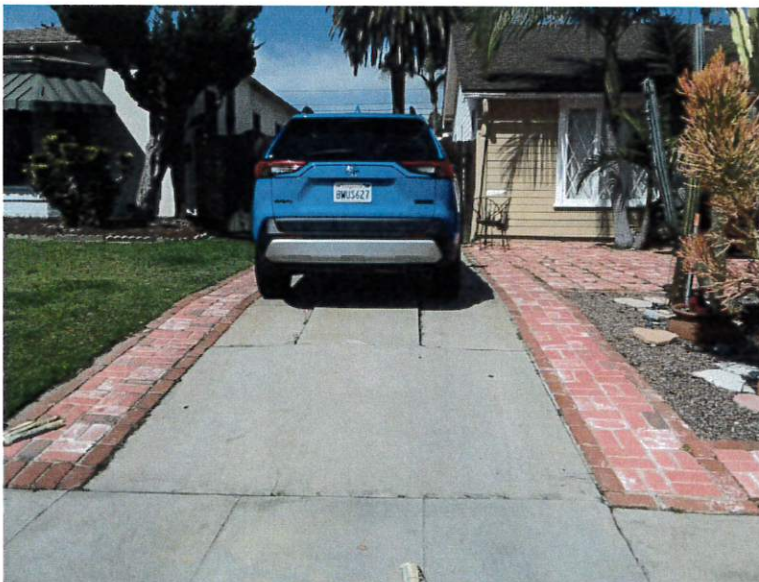


Driveway at 3756 California (my house). As you can see, we have to park our car along the right side of the driveway in order to have enough room to open the driver's door. If we have passengers, we have to stop across the sidewalk for them to exit, before pulling the car into the driveway.



Our neighbor Elena has removed sections of her driveway retaining walls and replaced them with a walkway (on left) and a landing pad (on right) to allow passengers to exit the vehicle. I should add that her elderly father lives with her and the retaining walls were a trip & fall hazard for him.

The walk and pad have been constructed in a professional and attractive manner in keeping with the Spanish architecture of the neighborhood. That is not always the case as evidenced by attached photos other homes in the neighborhood.



What do you think of this?



Or this?

### 3. Repainting the house.

The complaint I saw did not specify, but I assume the color is the issue? I must say I much prefer the new color scheme to that of the previous owner. Again, other homes in the neighborhood are painted pink, tuscan, rose or whatever you would call the color. It's all kind of subjective isn't it?



What would you call this color? Pink?



Or this? Rose?



Or this? Terracotta?

Elena is a great neighbor and an asset to the neighborhood. She took an eyesore that had been illegally converted to a tri-plex and problematic Air BnB, and fixed it up. No more noise and weirdos coming and going. So please, give her a break.

Foster and Nikki Rash

3754 California Ave.



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Foster Rash <foster.rash@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 12:34 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Cc:** Elenaleedorio@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Re: Certificate of Appropriateness

**-EXTERNAL-**

Thanks Alejandro

-----Original Message-----

**From:** DV - Cultural Heritage <cultural.heritage@longbeach.gov>  
**To:** Foster Rash <foster.rash@verizon.net>; DV - Cultural Heritage <cultural.heritage@longbeach.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed, Apr 20, 2022 11:12 am  
**Subject:** RE: Certificate of Appropriateness

Hi Foster, I am confirming receipt of your email below and attachment. I will forward to the Commission for their consideration during the upcoming hearing. Thank you.

**Alejandro Plascencia**  
*Planner*

**Long Beach Development Services | Planning**  
411 W. Ocean Blvd., 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl. | Long Beach, CA 90802  
Office: 562-570-6437



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**From:** Foster Rash <foster.rash@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 17, 2022 1:55 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage <cultural.heritage@longbeach.gov>  
**Subject:** Certificate of Appropriateness

**-EXTERNAL-**

Hi Gina,

Attached is a letter of support for Elena D'Orio who has run afoul of the Cultural Heritage Commission (Application Number: 2203-10 (APL22-02). I am her next-door neighbor. Elena has really spruced up her property and is an asset to the neighborhood. I would like to see the city give her a break.

Thanks

Foster Rash  
3754 California Ave.



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** William Fuqua <wmfuqua@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 3:49 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Notice of Public Hearing at 3758 California Avenue in California Heights, Long Beach.

**-EXTERNAL-**

To: [Cultural.heritage@longbeach.gov](mailto:Cultural.heritage@longbeach.gov)

Cc: [Gina.Casillas@longbeach.gov](mailto:Gina.Casillas@longbeach.gov)

[Christopher.Koontz@longbeach.gov](mailto:Christopher.Koontz@longbeach.gov)

[Alejandro.Plascencia@longbeach.gov](mailto:Alejandro.Plascencia@longbeach.gov)

Re: Notice of Public Hearing – 3758 California Avenue

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in regards to the Notice of Public Hearing at 3758 California Avenue in California Heights, Long Beach.

I am in opposition to the unpermitted work at the above mentioned address. It is my understanding that the owner was issued a stop work order, but ignored the city's request and blatantly continued construction. This is a slap in the face to homeowners that work within the city guidelines and abide by the rules. The color of the house, wall, etc. are not historically appropriate, and it looks more like a restaurant than a house.

We have longstanding roots in the Long Beach area, and our son recently graduated from Cal State Long Beach where he lived in a meticulously restored Craftsman home built in 1907.

Please do not reward bad behavior by allowing this injustice.

Thank you for your consideration.

William Fuqua

## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Louise Ivers <livers@csudh.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2022 11:07 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage; Historic Preservation; Alejandro Plascencia; CityClerk  
**Subject:** Letter from Long Beach Heritage regarding Item 22-016CH at April 26 Cultural Heritage Commission meeting  
**Attachments:** April 21.docx

**-EXTERNAL-**

I am attaching the letter from Long Beach Heritage about 22-016CHC (3758 California Avenue) Please give a copy of it to all of the Cultural Heritage Commissioners.

Louise Ivers, Vice President for Advocacy, Long Beach Heritage  
livers@csudh.edu





April 21, 2022

To: [Cultural.Heritage@longbeach.gov](mailto:Cultural.Heritage@longbeach.gov); [historicpreservation@longbeach.gov](mailto:historicpreservation@longbeach.gov);  
[Alejandro.Plascencia@longbeach.gov](mailto:Alejandro.Plascencia@longbeach.gov); [cityclerk@longbeach.gov](mailto:cityclerk@longbeach.gov)

From: Louise Ivers, Vice President for Advocacy, Long Beach Heritage ([livers@csudh.edu](mailto:livers@csudh.edu))

Subject: Long Beach Heritage response to Item 22-016CH on Cultural Heritage Commission agenda, April 26, 2022

Long Beach Heritage agrees with Development Services staff that the Cultural Heritage Commission should deny the appeal and uphold the partial denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness to legalize front yard work and painting at the residence located at 3758 California Avenue in the California Heights Historic District. This home is a contributing structure in California Heights and it appears that the owner did not receive a Certificate of Appropriateness for work done in the front yard, driveway, and front porch, or for painting the exterior of the house. The owner received numerous stop work and violation letters, but did not comply with Code Enforcement.

The work on the home and its landscaping does not follow the California Heights District Guidelines for appropriate construction. For example, the owner put a vinyl gate on the front porch which negatively affects the appearance of the façade of the house. The Secretary of the Interior Standards for historic homes are opposed to altering the porches, driveways, and yards of contributing structures in historic districts.

Long Beach Heritage supports the Development Services staff decision that the Cultural Heritage Commission should deny the appeal and uphold the partial denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness for the work done without approval by the owner of 3758 California Avenue.



**From:** Kristi White <kristiwhite@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2022 1:38 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** 3758 California (Application 2203-10 (APL22-02))

**-EXTERNAL-**

As 30-year California Heights residents, we are writing in support of the project completed at 3758 California Ave. While we agree that proper approval procedures should have been followed, we hope that the Commission will consider the following points.

#### Neighborhood Evolution

Many features of the neighborhood have changed over time. The Commission should support maintenance of the historical character in harmony with evolving needs of the residents. In some cases very modern structures, such as solar panels, electric chargers, air conditioners or rain barrels, are appropriate even though they are ahistorical and cannot be hidden from street view. Maintaining the historical character of the neighborhood should not mean freezing it in time.

#### Useable Outdoor Space

A majority of houses have an addition, an ADU or both, which often cover what was previously outdoor space while bringing more people and vehicles to occupy the same lot. Without a back yard to entertain or relax in, residents have been utilizing their front yards to a greater degree. Many have replaced lawns with native plantings, trees and vegetable gardens.

Many residents have some variety of patio, seating, courtyard or porch area in the front yard that is separated from the street with a fence, low wall or plantings. The 3758 California project is a compatible example of such use. We particularly like the low wall height and the way that the wall is set back several feet from the sidewalk. Low stucco walls are very characteristic of the Spanish Colonial Revival style, and they are more durable and more appropriate than the picket fences that are in the neighborhood's current style guidelines.

This yard is exactly the type of setting that is conducive to keeping young children or small pets contained without creating a barrier to visibility or neighborhood interaction, and its style harmonizes with the low retaining walls on many lots.

#### Greater Use of Front Yard Space Is A Net Gain to the Neighborhood

Many residents have been using their front yards to socialize and entertain during the pandemic. Such use would have been unusual 100 years ago, but today it is more common and arguably a net positive for the neighborhood. Residents get to know their neighbors when they spend time in their front yards, and a neighborhood that looks visibly inhabited is likely less attractive to thieves.

Sincerely,

Kristi and Jim White



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Gayleegirl <shortgayle@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2022 6:25 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Certificate of Appropriateness

**-EXTERNAL-**

April 15, 2022

Ms. Gayle Short  
3756 California Ave.  
Long Beach, CA 90807  
[ShortGayle@gmail.com](mailto:ShortGayle@gmail.com)

Cultural Heritage Commission  
City of Long Beach, CA  
[Cultural.Heritage@longbeach.gov](mailto:Cultural.Heritage@longbeach.gov)

Dear Sir, Madam,

This letter is in regards to the Certificate of Appropriateness, application number 2203-10 ( APL22-02) for my next door neighbor, Ms. Elena D' Orio at 3758 California Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807. Ms.D'Orio has done her due diligence in going through the procedures to choose an approved paint color for her home which can be found on other homes on Lemon, Lime and Olive Streets in the neighborhood. In addition, an application was made to have a low walled fence that matches three others within one block of her home and many other similar ones in the neighborhood. Finally, a request was made to remove one wall of the recessed driveway. Since the 1930's, when the home was built, cars have gotten bigger and laws have been passed for people with disabilities. Ms. D'Orio's father, who is in his mid 80's, has great difficulty getting in and out of the car using a walker with the former wall. It is extremely unfortunate that one neighbor, for whatever reason, filed a complaint over Ms.D'Orio's home improvements which compliment other homes in the neighborhood. This is wrong to deny her the Certificate of Appropriateness based on one person's complaint! I strongly urge you to reconsider Ms. D' Orio's appeal.

Sincerely,

Ms. Gayle Short



**From:** [Laura Pollard](#)  
**To:** [DV - Cultural Heritage](#)  
**Subject:** Approve Legalization of Work at 3758 California Ave.  
**Date:** Saturday, April 23, 2022 1:05:19 PM

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-EXTERNAL-

Dear Gina Casillas,

I am responding to the Notice of Public Hearing, Cultural Heritage Commission #2203-10 (APL 22-02).

My name is Laura Pollard. I have been a homeowner in Bixby Knolls for 17 years. I love the neighborhood and walk up and down California Avenue often for exercise and peace of mind. I have walked past Elena D'Orio's home (3758 California Ave) many times, and think the changes she has made are beneficial to the look of the neighborhood. I am writing a letter **in support** of the improvements Elena D'Orio has made to her home. I believe the improvements she has made add value to the home and neighborhood.

1.  
**Walkway and steps:** The new walkway and steps add beauty to the home. They also add **safety** for her elderly father, who lives with her, to use to get to the front door. The previous small grade on the lawn was not as safe or as nice to look at.
2.  
**Widening of the driveway:** The previous driveway with curbs on both sides was dangerous. Getting out of a car and stepping onto a 12" curb with no sidewalk attached was dangerous and a way for the homeowner and guests to trip and fall. I personally experienced getting out of the car once and almost tripped. The widening of the driveway creates a much **safer** access for her elderly father and others who visit her home.
3.  
**Exterior paint:** The new color of her home is beautiful and fits in well with the neighborhood. I saw this exact color on a home a few streets away in the California Heights neighborhood. The house and trim colors she chose were approved by the Planner.
4.  
**Low perimeter wall:** The new wall looks beautiful and adds **safety** to her home. It provides **security** for the homeowner, pets, and children. It also adds beauty to the home. I have seen many houses in the Cal Heights Historical area with low perimeter walls.



Overall, the new additions add much beauty, **safety, and value** to the home and neighborhood.

I have known Elena D'Orio for over 10 years and can account for her character. She is a generous, caring, thoughtful, honest, and hard-working person who brings joy to those around her. Her heart is to bring the best out of everyone and everything, not to complain or cause trouble. She is definitely an asset to the neighborhood.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and for considering the approval of the changes she has made to her home. I appreciate your patience and understanding regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

Laura Li Pollard



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** LeK <lekermode@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 23, 2022 7:05 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Re: 3758 California Avenue remodel; Application No. 2203-10 (APL22-02)

-EXTERNAL-

To the Cultural Heritage Committee:

It appears there has been a complaint and planning denials for the changes made to the address listed above. As a near neighbor of the above address (I do not personally know the owner), I would like to state in the strongest terms that I think the remodel is an upgrade that benefits the neighborhood.

I have lived in California Heights for 11 years and have enjoyed the variety of well cared-for homes; the remodel at 3758 improved the aspect from the front for the neighborhood as well as making modern changes for the residents.

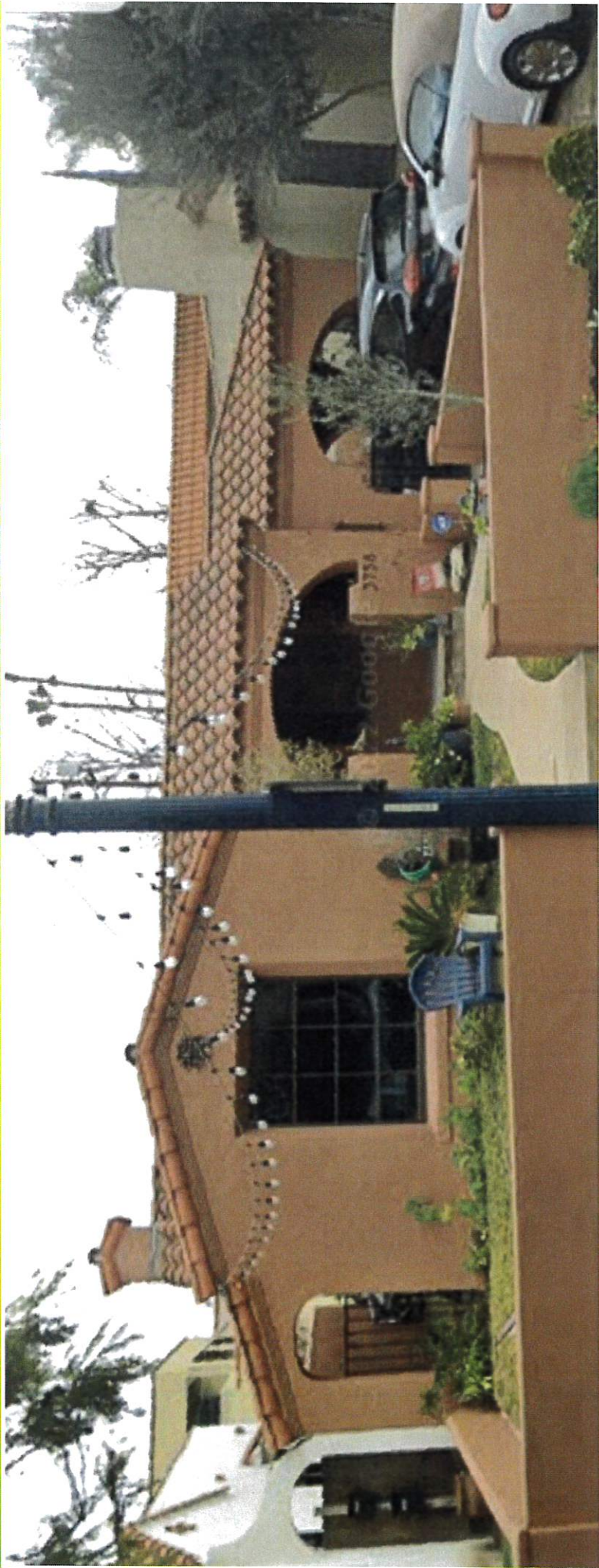
While walking my dog or driving by, I have more than once commented to family members on how good the house and especially the front approach looks.

The widening of the driveway integrates nicely into the new, organized, look of the front yard (plenty of our driveways are ludicrously narrow - sometimes "cute" and narrow for historical purposes is simply not safe for pulling in and out of the road!) If the Historical Committee is demanding changes to the remodel, I would request that those be rescinded and that it instead acknowledges how well the low wall, the replanting, the entry path, and the new Spanish style color works to improve the 2700 block of California Ave.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Kermode  
3635 California Avenue







## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Kerrie Weaver <kerrieweaver36@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 12:40 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage; Historic Preservation; Alejandro Plascencia; CityClerk  
**Subject:** Response to the Certificate of Appropriateness Appeal for 3758 California

-EXTERNAL-

April 23, 2022

To: [Cultural.Heritage@longbeach.gov](mailto:Cultural.Heritage@longbeach.gov), [historicpreservation@longbeach.gov](mailto:historicpreservation@longbeach.gov),  
[Alejandro.Plascencia@longbeach.gov](mailto:Alejandro.Plascencia@longbeach.gov), [cityclerk@longbeach.gov](mailto:cityclerk@longbeach.gov)

I'm writing in support of the Staff Recommendation to deny the appeal and uphold the partial denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness to legalize front yard work including the installation of a low perimeter wall, the installation of a new concrete walkway and steps, the installation of a gate across the porch, the removal of a 12" tall concrete curb abutting the driveway, the installation of inappropriate pavers to widen the driveway and the repainting of the house, wall and garage for the property located at 3758 California Avenue.

I am a longtime resident who has applied for and received the proper permits and Certificate of Appropriateness for changes made to my own home. It is unfair for those of us who follow the appropriate process to then have another homeowner complete unapproved and inappropriate work, ask for forgiveness and receive it.

The unapproved changes made to this home violate both the California Heights Historic Guidelines and the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Historic Districts which strive to maintain the district's overall cohesiveness, uniqueness, and architectural integrity. Unfortunately, Cal Heights has seen an epidemic of unapproved and unenforced home projects recently and each one chips away at the architectural integrity of the neighborhood that the Historic District designation was intended to protect.

Thank you, Kerrie Weaver



**Gina Casillas**

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**From:** Cindi Milrad <xstrbl@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 10:31 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Cal Heights home RE: 3758 California

-EXTERNAL-

Cultural Heritage Board members:

Please see this home that I walk by every morning as I walk my dogs.

This front yard area has been sitting this way since I moved into Cal Heights in 2018.

If this front yard is OK by your standards, and you choose to punish the homeowner at 3758 California Ave, I would really question how just and fair this system is.

I will be joining in to the hearing today, to listen for your decision.

Thank you.

Cindi Milrad

3745 Lime Ave.











Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Devon Trunnelle](#)  
**To:** [DV - Cultural Heritage](#)  
**Cc:** [elena.dorio](#)  
**Subject:** Application No.: 2203-10 (APL22-02)  
**Date:** Sunday, April 24, 2022 1:13:00 PM

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-EXTERNAL-

To whom it may concern at the Cultural Heritage Commission,

My name is Devon Crow Trunnelle and I have lived in Bixby Knolls for 45 years and have been a home owner in the Los Cerritos neighborhood since 2004. I have many friends in the Cal Heights community and am a member of the Cal Heights United Methodist Church. I am writing this letter in support of maintaining the current enhancements that the property owner has made at 3758 California Avenue.

The improvements made at this property are consistent with the history and neighborhood, and contribute to making it among the more attractive homes in the California Heights area. These enhancements not only preserve the historical character of the property, but also boost the curb appeal, thereby enhancing the value of the property and that of neighboring homes.

More importantly, the enhancements and modifications address current safety concerns. The homeowner's elderly father lives on the property and the modifications make it easier for him to get in and out of a vehicle. The low wall constructed is a deterrent to porch theft and creates a safe space for the property owner's small dog to roam. The new, darker color of the house allows the fresh, drought tolerant landscaping to take centre stage against the property. The color is based on samples from other homes in the neighborhood. Additionally, according to Ms. D'Orio the color was also pre-approved by the planner before a neighbor complained.

As I look around Cal Heights, I see many architectural eye sores... yet when I walk past 3758 California ave, I see a home that has respected and enhanced the current charm and character of Cal Heights. It's also warm and inviting, unlike some of the neighborhood homes currently being modified to flip and sell for the highest cash offer. This property owner was making changes to enhance her "forever home", while also retaining the architectural integrity. It's a shame that she is being prevented from doing that. I respectfully ask that the Cultural Heritage Commission rescind their recommendation to deny Ms. D'Orio's appeal and partial-denial of the Certificate of Appropriateness.

Sincerely,

Devon Crow Trunnelle



**From:** [Tony Barragan](#)  
**To:** [DV - Cultural Heritage](#)  
**Subject:** App. # 2203-10 (APL22-02). 3758 California Ave.  
**Date:** Sunday, April 24, 2022 5:09:49 PM

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-EXTERNAL-

I've been a resident of Cal Heights for more than 35 years. I'm also retired from the construction business. I've seen home remodels in our neighborhood that were just plain horrible. This home is an exception. The color scheme is perfect, the low wall adds a layer of depth, and all in all it adds charm to our fine neighborhood.

It's obvious what the owner's intent is, please consider her appeal.

Regards,

Tony Barragan

Cal Heights Resident

Sent from my iPad

12



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** rudy youssef <rudywithaxiom@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 24, 2022 7:52 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Fw: Failure Notice

-EXTERNAL-

reference application No.:2203-10(APL22-02

My name is Rudy Youssef and i live at 3710 Myrtle Ave. I support Elena's enhancements. Her home looks fantastic. we have become a society of complainers, tormentors, email/social media warriors. its ridicules! i encountered a women on Olive st. yelling at kids for playing football in the street. Elena received multiple complaints from a neighbor???? WOW! OUTRAGOUS! One neighbor can ruin a home owners vision of their dream home. lets have some respect for our neighbors! i stand and support Elena.  
lets hope this appeal works out in her favor.

Best

Rudy Youssef (949)573-4760

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** "mailer-daemon@yahoo.com" <mailer-daemon@yahoo.com>  
**To:** "rudywithaxiom@yahoo.com" <rudywithaxiom@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 24, 2022, 10:09:19 AM PDT  
**Subject:** Failure Notice

Sorry, we were unable to deliver your message to the following address.

<[Cultural-heritage@longbeach.gov](mailto:Cultural-heritage@longbeach.gov)>:  
550: 5.1.1 User Unknown

----- Forwarded message -----

My name is Rudy Youssef and i live at 3710 Myrtle Ave. I support Elena's enhancements. Her home looks fantastic. we have become a society of complainers, tormentors, email/social media warriors. its ridicules! i encountered a women on Olive st. yelling at kids for playing football in the street. Elena received multiple complaints from a neighbor???? WOW! OUTRAGOUS! One neighbor can ruin a home owners vision of their dream home. lets have some respect for our neighbors! i stand and support Elena.  
lets hope this appeal works out in her favor.

Best

Rudy Youssef (949)573-4760

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████████████████████

## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Debbie Aldcroft <daldcroft@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 24, 2022 8:11 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application No.: 2203-10 (PL22-02); 3758 California Avenue

-EXTERNAL-

To whom it may concern:

I am a neighbor down the street from this applicant. I have walked by the house to view all of it's improvements, including paint, low stucco wall and pavers added to the driveway to widen it a bit. I consider all of these improvements be very tasteful, and totally in tune with the neighborhood. I believe these improvements will improve our neighborhood.

I request, as a resident of this Historical Society area and as a neighbor right down the street from the applicant, that you allow all of these improvements. I think they look great!

Thank you,

Debbie Aldcroft  
~~3758 California Avenue~~



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Gary Aldcroft <gtaldcroft@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 24, 2022 10:09 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Hearing regarding Ms D'Orio's home modifications in California Heights Ap #2203-10 (PL22-02)

-EXTERNAL-

It has been brought to my attention that the Historical Committee is not happy with the improvements a neighbor or ours has made to her home in the last year or so. Since I live down the street from this house I have watched the work being done and have seen that all of the changes are in keeping with other Spanish style homes in the area. The house color, the improved driveway, the low wall are all the things similar to what you see on other Cultural Heritage homes nearby.

I have lived in my house since 1983 and am always pleased to see neighbors improving their homes. I am shocked to hear that the committee has found fault with any of the changes. There is absolutely no reason that these improvements in Ms D'Orio's home should be seen as non compliant.

Respectfully,  
Gary Aldcroft  
~~3717 California Ave.~~



**Gina Casillas**

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**From:** Rochelle Whybrew <Rwhybrew@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 7:25 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application #2203-10 (PL22-02)

-EXTERNAL-

Love what our neighbor has done to her home.. the color & retaining wall certainly has enhanced the home and our street.. we have several homes on our street don't even keep up their lawns & several look like a jungle with their natural landscaping..it is so sad that this homeowner will be punished for upgrading the exterior..Shelley Whybrew.. 3734 California

Sent from my iPhone

~~SECRET~~

## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Karen MacKenzie <Karen.MacKenzie@freeman.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 7:58 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** application # 2203-10 (AP:22-02)

**-EXTERNAL-**

Hello,

I am a resident of the Cal Heights neighborhood and would like to express my point of view regarding the enhancements/changes made to the exterior of the home at 3758 California Ave.

The changes the homeowner made to this property are consistent with the Spanish architectural theme within the neighborhood. The addition of the wall enhanced the exterior of the home, the driveway modification is tasteful and in alignment with the style of the home, and the color of the home reflects many colors of homes in the neighborhood and the Spanish color palette. I think the home is a wonderful example of how upgrades can be made to these charming homes without compromising the architectural integrity. In fact, when you look at another home on the street, a mid-century modern aberration that is completely out of sync in this neighborhood, I wonder why the committee would question the changes made to the home on 3758 California? The changes this homeowner made actually improve the look of the street/neighborhood and do not detract from it.

The only request I would make is to remove the exterior string lighting, hanging from the front of the home which crosses over the sidewalk and attaches to a street post. This is not consistent with what's appropriate for the neighborhood, and crosses over the public sidewalks, which I would think is in violation of a city ordinance. This is the only home with this feature in the front yard and is actually out of place.

Thank you.

Karen MacKenzie (she/her)  
Resident, California Heights



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Kristin Powers <kristinpowers1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 10:04 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage; elenaleedorio@gmail.com  
**Subject:** #2203-10 (PL22-02)

**-EXTERNAL-**

Greetings,

We live at 3770 California Ave, Long Beach, CA 90807 and as neighbors to Elena D'Orio, we do not object to the exterior modifications. We think the wall, landscaping and color of the house are in-line with the style of the neighborhood. Thus, this email is in support of the appeal made by Ms. D'Orio to the Historic Committee's initial findings.

Thank you,  
Kristin Powers



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Etin Olomu <etin360@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 10:11 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Cc:** Kreesh Baby 😊👶👶👶  
**Subject:** 3758 California Ave. Modifciations; Application No.: 2203-10 (APL22-02)

-EXTERNAL-

To the committee,

I want to thank you all for your exceptional work and reverence in preserving our Cal Heights neighborhood. My wife and I, with our 2yr old daughter moved in to the neighborhood in October 2021. We live on Lemon Ave., and have loved our new home and neighbors, and hope to be here for the long haul.

I recently saw the enhancements and upgrades done to the home on 3758 California Ave. by Elena D'Orio, and thought they were excellent. The spirit of the neighborhood was kept, with adequate upgrades made, to enhance the overall look of the street and property. It's my understanding that Mrs. D'Orio is appealing the Committee's denial of these enhancements. My purpose of this correspondence is to support the upgrades made to the home. I hope you can rule in her favor, to keep the enhancements, while maintaining the spirit and feel of our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Etin Olomu



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Heather Peterson <heather@girlcharlee.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 10:16 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** 3758 California Ave Complaints

**-EXTERNAL-**

To the Cultural Heritage Committee:

I am a close neighbor of the above address and also know the owner and her family and wanted to voice as a resident I feel the improvements made to the property is an upgrade that benefits the entire neighborhood.

I have lived in California Heights and Bixby Knolls for 14 years and the remodel at 3758 improved the neighborhood overall while providing much-needed upgrades for the residents.

If the Historical Committee is considering action against the residents, I request that it be rescinded and allowed as the new low wall, replanting, pathway, and the new traditional Spanish era home color improves the address, the entire block, and the neighborhood of California Ave.

Sincerely,

Heather Peterson  
Gaviota Ave

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Heather Peterson  
Girl Charlee Inc  
[heather@girlcharlee.com](mailto:heather@girlcharlee.com)  
877.GRL.CHAR (475.2427)  
[www.girlcharlee.com](http://www.girlcharlee.com)

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## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Martha Michalczak <m.egland@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 10:28 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** RE: 3758 California Avenue- Appeal  
**Attachments:** 3758 California .pdf

**-EXTERNAL-**

**RE: Application No.: 2203-10 (APL22-02)**

To whom it may concern:

Please see attached letter. I would like to be recognized as being in full support of this home improvement.

Thank you,

Martha Michalczak



To the Cultural Heritage Committee:

In regards to the complaint filed against the homeowner at 3758 California Avenue, I would like to formally endorse the changes made to the home and offer my full support of the project. The home has definitely been improved in a manner consistent with its heritage and in the spirit of the neighborhood. As a resident of the Bixby area, I am always pleased to see homeowners take pride in their home as it benefits all.

Furthermore, given the state of our last two years in this pandemic environment, I would think the committee would be flexible in its thinking so as to encourage families to create safe spaces to meet in and enjoy the outdoors. We are blessed to live in such a unique city with old homes of various styles. Ms. D'Orio has created a beautiful space that looks and feels like it has been there always.

Please reconsider denying this home improvement as it has only enhanced this street and our community.

Sincerely,

Martha Michalczak  
LB Resident

[REDACTED]



**Gina Casillas**

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**From:** Donna Schoop <DonnaSchoop@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 10:51 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Hearing April 26, 2022 3758 California Ave

-EXTERNAL-

Hello Cultural Heritage,

Writing this letter makes me wonder if anyone has seen the enhanced and preserved beauty that is 3758 California Ave?

As a resident of Long Beach and a CSULB grad I am always proud to see homeowners make enhancements that are consistent with the home and most importantly the neighborhood.

Many years ago Cal Heights was written in Sunset magazine and I strongly feel that 3758 would meet with their standards for this precious historical area and the spirit of the neighborhood.

May the spirit that is Cal Heights live in your consideration for 3758

—  
Donna Schoop

3824 Pine Ave Long Beach

o: 562-544-4326

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**Gina Casillas**

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**From:** Mayra Gutierrez <mytmy@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 11:21 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Cc:** Elena Dorio  
**Subject:** Cultural Heritage Commission #2203-10 (APL22-02)

**-EXTERNAL-**

To the Cultural Heritage Commission and Whom It May Concern,

This letter is in response to the Notice of Public Hearing, April 26, 2022, for Cultural Heritage Commission #2203-10 (APL22-02). I am **in support** of the appropriateness of the property improvements made by Elena D'Orio at 3758 California Ave., Long Beach 90807.

Elena was a neighbor of ours for many years before she moved to California Heights. She loves the city of Long Beach and has always taken great pride in her homes. She would never do anything to compromise the spirit or the history of the area. She is always supportive of the community and frequently does things to bring the community together. It saddens me to know that she is under scrutiny for the beautiful improvements she has made to her home. The house looks better than ever and the work she has done is consistent with the neighborhood and it's history. We have lived in the Virginia Country Club area for 20 years and have walked the California Heights neighborhood countless times. The work she has done has enhanced the neighborhood and is consistent and similar with other homes in the area. Not only that, it has made her home safer for her elderly father.

If the work she has done is not in compliance then the Cultural Heritage Commission should reexamine it's regulations as I have seen many homes that are not taken care of and a complete eyesore for the community. Please do something to make those homeowners improve their houses....do not go after the people who are making the neighborhood and the community a better place.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mayra Gutierrez

Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery... Today is a gift. - Eleanor Roosevelt



**Gina Casillas**

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**From:** Tammie Hollar <tammiehollar@ymail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 11:55 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application No: 2203-10(PL22-02)

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear reviewers and approvers,

Please accept this email as my full support and praise to the changes made at 3758 California Ave. These improvements improved the "authentic" look and should not be protested. In addition, the accommodation made to the driveway is in line and support by the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) and should be treated thusly and in accordance to the law.

Finally, the time frame to approve this project is not acceptable per a reasonable person standard. And moving forward with any project, within the guide posted on-line, in a reasonable time, with or without your approval should be standard.

Tammie Hollar



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Claire Bothwell <bothwell\_claire@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 24, 2022 10:54 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application No. 2203-10 (PL22-02) - Agenda Item for April 26, 2022  
**Attachments:** Cultural Heritage Commission 22-016CH.docx

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Members of the Committee,

Attached please find my letter regarding the above-referenced Application and Appeal for 3758 California Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807



To: Members of the Cultural Heritage Commission

From: Claire Bothwell – [bothwell\\_claire@yahoo.com](mailto:bothwell_claire@yahoo.com)

Re: Application No. 2203-10 (APL22-02) – Appeal 22-016CH

3758 California Avenue

Long Beach, CA 90807

Date: April 24, 2022

I write as a long-time local resident to support the improvements made by the owner of the above-referenced property, and respectfully encourage the Cultural Heritage Commission (CHC) not to follow the recommendation of the City's staff to deny the homeowner's appeal and allow the improvements to remain in place.

The improvements made to 3758 California are exactly that: improvements. They have enhanced the appearance of the property, as well as the safety of the residents.

The lovely wall that now contains the front garden has created a safe and welcoming space for the people who live in the home and their visitors, and many of the other residents in the neighborhood admire it too. It is also consistent with other homes in the neighborhood, many of which have perimeter walls (although not all as nice as this one). While it is important to try and preserve the neighborhood's historical appeal, it is also important for any resident to feel safe in their own home and to be able to protect young children or pets from running into the street and into traffic. (California Avenue is a particularly busy street for cars, and many people speed driving up and down that street.) The April 26, 2022, staff report refers to *"Preservation Standard Number 2 and Rehabilitation Standard Number 2 [which] states that 'the historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. ... A majority of the properties within the District have a clear line of sight from the street to the historic house without visual obstructions such as a fencing or walls in the front yard. The installation of a three-foot tall concrete block wall and gate located within the front yard setback diminishes the spatial relationship between the streetscape and the historic home by blocking the view of the historic house ..."* The wall built at 3758 California does nothing to diminish the spatial relationship between the streetscape and the house. The view of the house is not blocked by the wall – the house in its entirety is visible from the street. And it does in fact improve the appearance of the house. Walking through the neighborhood one sees many other houses with low walls (and some not so low). The attached photos were taken this weekend and are only some of the numerous other houses with walls.

The new color of the house also is a great improvement to the property. It is bright and warm and fits perfectly with the aesthetics the Spanish Colonial Revival style of the house. The staff report states that it is *"a deep red-orange (rust) color[.]"* but I would disagree with that and describe it more as terracotta or adobe; and the new color does indeed provide enough of a contrast to the red clay tile roof. And while the CHC may recommend that *"historically Spanish Colonial Revival buildings were light in color, as they took inspiration from whitewash, stucco and adobe buildings of the Spanish Colonial era"* that is only a guide and certainly not true of all Spanish Colonial Revivals. There are many other houses in the neighborhood painted in similar colors, and it is therefore consistent with those existing homes.

As far as the widening of the driveway is concerned, that seems not only necessary for the safety of the residents trying to exit their vehicles to enter the house without falling, but completely appropriate given how narrow the existing driveway was and how high and hazardous the 12-inch curb between the driveway and the access to the house was. Although the April 26, 2022, report states that *"repaving driveways with a visually different material such as brick, pavers, or flagstone is not permitted[.]"* that is clearly not something that is followed or enforced in the neighborhood as many, many homes have done just that. And some of them are true eyesores. The attached photos were taken this weekend and are only some of the numerous other houses with widened driveways and/or pavers, brick, flagstone, etc.

Additionally, the report mentions the resident's application for new driveway gates and states that *"gates should be set back from the primary elevation (front wall of the house) and be made of material the is compatible with the style of the house."* This, again, seems to be a guideline that is neither followed nor enforced in the rest of the neighborhood. Walking through the streets one sees many with gates that are in front of the porte-cochères, attached to the house at the primary elevation, and made of materials incompatible with the house. The attached photos were taken this weekend and are only some of the numerous other houses with these gates.

As I have been walking in the neighborhood and chatting with other residents about this project, I've learned that many of the neighbors appreciate and support the improvements that have been made to 3758 California Avenue and welcome these changes to the house. It is a lovely home that has truly been enhanced by these modifications and yet it still remains consistent and cohesive with the historical feeling and unity of the district. Its character is retained and preserved. I urge the CHC not to single out and punish the resident at 3758 California Avenue for mistakes in the application process to achieve the same improvements that already exist in other homes throughout the neighborhood. This home looks splendid with these updates and improvements while still respecting its history and style, and I hope it is allowed to stay that way.

Sincerely,

Claire M. Bothwell

Photos of Walls, Driveways, Gates, and similar color houses



Block wall at perimeter



block wall at perimeter



Cinder block wall at perimeter



cinder block wall at perimeter



block wall



wall at perimeter



Wall at perimeter



wall at perimeter covered with ivy



Wall made of flagstones



wall at perimeter



Wall at perimeter



wall at perimeter



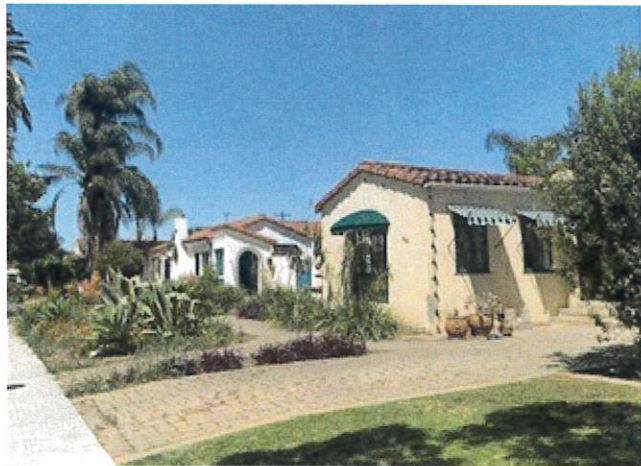
Widened driveway – all pavers



widened driveway – all pavers



Widened driveway – all pavers



widened driveway – all pavers



Widened driveway – all tiles



widened driveway and gate at front



Widened driveway with bricks



widened driveway with bricks



Widened driveway with cement and bricks



widened driveway with concrete slabs and gate at front



Widened driveway with slabs and gravel



widened driveway with slabs and tiles



Widened driveway with crazy-paving



widened driveway with dirt



Widened driveway with flagstones



widened driveway with pavers and scrub grass



Widened driveway w. pavers



widened driveway w. bricks



Widened driveway with pavers and block wall



widened driveway with pavers



Cinder block wall, random flagstones and gravel



crazy-paving walkway



Cinder block wall, random tiles and pavers,  
random other fencing on perimeter



white Vinyl fencing



Gate at front elevation



gate at front elevation



Gate at front elevation



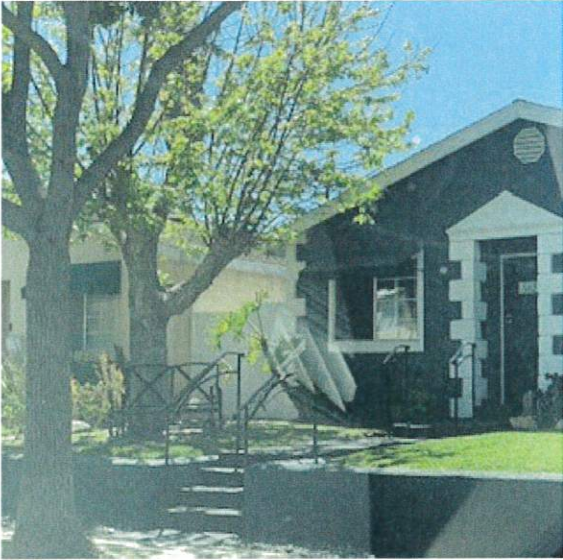
chain link fence gate attached to house



Similar color and front gate



similar color



? color ?



similar color

## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Claire Bothwell <bothwell\_claire@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 12:15 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application No. 2203-10 (APL22-02) - Appeal 22-016CH - Supplemental letter of support  
**Attachments:** Cultural Heritage Commission 22-016CH 4-25-22 supplement (003).docx

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Members of the Cultural Heritage Commission,

Attached please find a **supplemental** letter of support for the improvements made at 3758 California. Please accept this letter as a supplement to my letter dated April 24, 2022.

Claire M. Bothwell



To: Members of the Cultural Heritage Commission

From: Claire Bothwell – [bothwell\\_claire@yahoo.com](mailto:bothwell_claire@yahoo.com)

Re: Application No. 2203-10 (APL22-02) – Appeal 22-016CH

3758 California Avenue

Long Beach, CA 90807

Date: April 25, 2022

I am writing to supplement my April 24, 2022, letter of support for the resident of 3758 California in the above-referenced appeal.

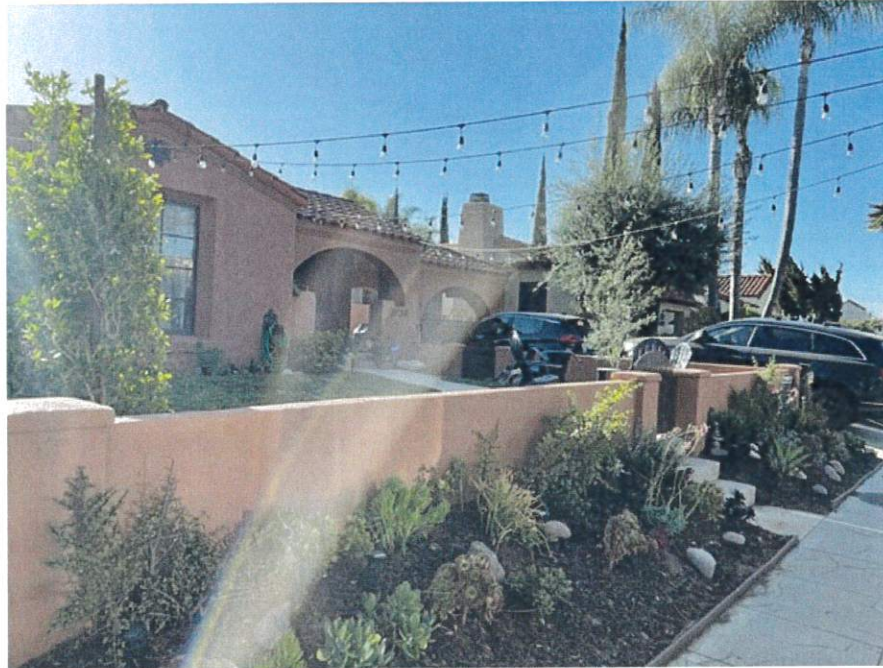
I spent some time researching Spanish Colonial Revival houses and their exterior colors and found plenty of examples of terracotta and adobe colors that are not cream or white. I attach some more photos for your review and consideration, including a photo of 3758 California Avenue that was apparently taken by a City of Long Beach staff member.

I discussed this with the owner of the home, Ms. D'Orio, and learned that despite what the City's staff report dated April 26, 2022, says, Ms. D'Orio was given the name of an acceptable exterior stucco paint color and trim color by the city planner on staff, including the specific place that the paint must be purchased, and those are the colors she used to paint the house. After giving the specific colors to Ms. D'Orio and the painting of the house, the City's staff member now states that the color was not approved, even though it previously had been. This is obviously both confusing and troubling.

Sincerely,

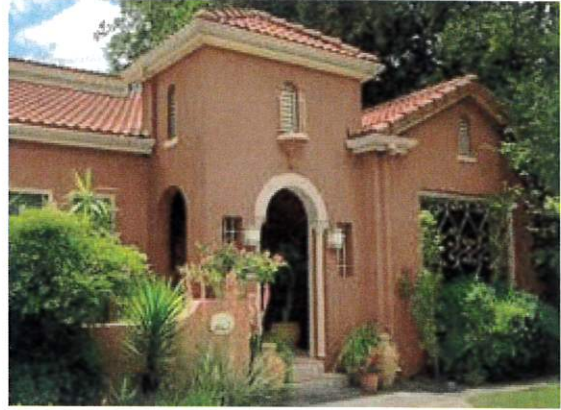
Claire M. Bothwell

Photo of the new color taken by the City of Long Beach – obviously more “clay” or “terracotta” than the “deep red-orange [rust] color” color stated in the report:



Decorating in Old Spanish Colonial and Adobe style:







## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Tamara Stanco <tamarastanco3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 12:20 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application No.:2203-10 (APL22-02)

**-EXTERNAL-**

To whom this may concern, I live on California Ave., a couple of houses down from 3758 California, and I happen to love all of the upgrades done to the house. It has a Beautiful Spanish Style look, it blends in nicely with the other homes on the block and it adds to the appeal of the California Heights I was raised in.

P.S. The California Heights Historical Committee's actions are speaking very boldly on how it can treat some residents kind and understanding then be unprofessional and distasteful, forcing residents to buy high supplies and pay outlandish fees, while turning a blind eye to those in your opinion, are worthy. Be Consistent! We are all tax payers and deserve better treatment.

Sincerely,  
Tamara Stanco  
**Be Better, Do Better.**





## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Maggie Gisel <maggie.gisel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 1:27 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Hearing for Application Number 2203-10 (APL22-02)

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear Members of the Cultural Heritage Commission,

Re: Application No. 2203-10 (APL22-02) – Appeal 22-016CH at 3758 California Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807

I've been a resident of Virginia Country Club for twenty years and have a deep love and appreciation for the architectural integrity of our shared community with California Heights. I am writing in support of the improvements made to 3758 California Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807 and respectfully request the Cultural Heritage Commission (CHC) not to follow the recommendation of the city's staff to deny the homeowner's appeal and allow the improvements to remain in place.

The improvements to the house appear to be totally consistent with that of other houses in this historically preserved neighborhood. I am not an architect, contractor, or neighborhood historian but it is plain to see that the exterior paint, pavers, stucco wall and widened driveway are attractive, true to the intent of California Heights and lift the overall appeal of the house, and therefore the neighborhood.

Rather than being punitive, I would hope that the CHC would be more collaborative and supportive of the significant efforts that were made by the homeowner to improve this particular residence. Why would you penalize someone for wisely using their resources to improve the quality, safety, and appeal of their house? It seems to me there must be a better way to solve this problem than to single out this homeowner and demand they rip everything out just to prove a point by the CHC.

I urge the CHC not to punish the resident at 3758 California Avenue for mistakes that might have been made in the application process. The owner has clearly invested significant time and resources to achieve the same improvements that already exist in similar houses throughout the neighborhood. This home looks lovely with these updates and improvements, while still respecting the California Heights history and style. Please check your power and let it stay that way.

I respectfully ask that the Cultural Heritage Commission rescind their recommendation to deny Ms. D'Orio's appeal and partial-denial of the Certificate of Appropriateness.

Regards,  
Maggie Gisel  
~~310-529-0751~~; Maggie.gisel@gmail.com

10/10/10

## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Beth Franssen <bafranssen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 2:28 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Letter regarding appeal of 3758 California Avenue, LB, 90807

**-EXTERNAL-**

Dear cultural heritage,

Please allow the appeal for work done on 3758 California Ave in California Heights to seek CofA for work done to the property. The work done is in keeping with the aesthetic of the neighborhood and lifestyle. The Heritage organization also needs to consider preserving cultural heritage in context with demands of modern standards for energy efficiency, solar power, electricity and support for electric vehicles, ADA safety and ordinances and our reliance on cars, all of which were not modern standards at the time California Heights was constructed.

Thank you for consideration.

Beth Franssen  
Bixby Knolls neighbor



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Travers Ichinose <tyichinose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 3:13 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Support for appeal - application 2203-10 (APL22-02)

-EXTERNAL-

Dear esteemed commissioners,

We are nearly 8 year residents of the California Heights historic district living at 3750 California Ave. Two doors North of us is a residence at 3758 California Ave, which is currently the subject of an appeal process subsequent to a certificate of appropriateness denial.

We are writing in support of the appeal. Though we are admittedly not experts in the architectural features of our historic district, we have resided here long enough to have a informal sense of the neighborhood's character, which was a major reason we decided to purchase our home. We have also had projects pass review of the historic district in the past. We are writing in support of the 2203-10 (APL22-02) appeal for the following reasons:

1. The current color of their house seems consistent with others in the neighborhood.
2. The low perimeter wall seems similar to others in the neighborhood.
3. We feel the enhancements done at the property are aesthetically appealing and actually add to the character of our block.

It is for the aforementioned reasons we hope you will see past some innocent procedural missteps and grant the 2203-10 (APL22-02) appeal.

Sincerely,

Trav and Juanita Ichinose  
3750 California Ave  
Long Beach, CA 90807

Sent from my iPhone

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**Gina Casillas**

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**From:** Carla McGill <carlam101@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 3:27 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application No: 2203-10 (APL22-02)

-EXTERNAL-

To whom it may concern

My name is Carla McGill and I lived in Long Beach CA for 16 years.

Elena has been a good friend of mine for 10 years and she loves Long Beach. She is passionate about her house that she has made her home. She appreciates all the historical architecture and would never jeopardize that. That is one of the main reasons why she loves the area so much.

Looking at the improvements I think it adds so much character to the property and improves the look and safety of the house and neighborhood, not to mention increasing property values. Her home looks 100 times better than a lot of the other homes in the area. To me it has not taken away from the history of the home one bit.

When it comes to her family and friends she goes over and beyond for them and in this case it's keeping them safe. The driveway being widened not only makes the property look better but by doing this she prevents family members and friends from getting hurt as they step out of their cars. Why wouldn't you want her to prevent injuries before they happen? Making her take away the modifications, then possible injuries would be on you! I would have also added a wall for privacy and for safety as crime has increased.

Elena is a good person. Please don't make her remove all modifications. Her home looks beautiful and inviting! The color of the home fits the neighborhood perfectly. Please look around at all the other homes. Can you honestly tell me that you don't think the improvements were beneficial for everyone in the area?

Thank  
Carla

Sent from my iPhone



**Gina Casillas**

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**From:** pattisong4color@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 3:33 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application No. 2203-10 (APL22-02). /3758 California Avenue, Long Beach, CA. 90807

-EXTERNAL-

Good Afternoon Members of the Historical Committee

I would like to bring attention to the fact that the changes and upgrades made to the home at 3758 California Avenue, Long Beach, CA. 90807 were made with good intention and planned out thoughtfulness, to honor the historical look of the neighborhood.

Let's also acknowledge how the Zero Garden & the new wall are environmentally considerate as they have reduced the grass lawn. We are all very aware of our ongoing drought. I believe this shows the awareness and thoughtfulness, from a community homeowner. This design idea should be used as an example of change for the better!

I must say, I find it quite odd that someone has called the color of the home.....rust? The current color is complimentary to the landscaping and is so very easily identifiable as a historical color. We all learn to recognize varying earthy, natural, terra cotta tones in elementary school textbooks. Terra cotta tones, never fade ugly over time. **Nor, do they show dirt. They do not dull, oxidize and show unwanted yellow tones as many variations of white colors do.** Terra cotta tones work with nature, not against. Yes, I am extremely color science aware, as it is my profession.

The person who filed a complaint about 3758 California Avenue, must keep you *quite busy* as there are so many other homes in the immediate area with improvements & changes, which clearly, have *not* followed the basic guidelines. The changes done to other homes, do not have the same visual feel. They are more modern or move in a different direction to the look of their home. The changes at 3758 California Avenue, are consistent and are not a "design clash".

How can paint colors be approved by a planner, but after the job is done, a neighbor's "color complaint" is honored? Perhaps the planner could show the paint color

approval email communication to the neighbor who filed a complaint. A fast way to set them at ease. Clear and simple solution, right?? 

I hope this letter has shed some helpful light on the situation as well as enlightening perspective for The Historical Committee to reconsider requiring future changes to 3758 California Avenue.

Thank you.

**FB: PATTI SONG - Haircolorist**

**My Fave Job Title Ever... by GaGa**

**KRKorea Times InterviewKR**

**Website: Represented by Cloutier Remix Agency**

**Agents - Madeline Leonard & Emily Gradess-Hartman**

## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Gustin Smith <smithgustin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 3:53 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Re: Support of Elena D'Orio (3758 California Avenue)

-EXTERNAL-

Hello,

My name is Gustin Smith. I'm writing in FULL SUPPORT of Elena D'Orio who resides at 3758 California Avenue in Long Beach, CA. I strongly feel the upgrades made to her residence are consistent with the styles of the Long Beach historical homes in the neighborhood, including the wall, landscaping and color. I am confident the work done to her home is truly an asset to the value of the neighborhood.

To reiterate, I'm writing in support of the appeal made by Elena D'Orio.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Regards,

Gustin Smith



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** elena dorio <elenaleedorio@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 3:56 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage; Alejandro Plascencia; Alison Spindler-Ruiz  
**Cc:** nlongino@verizon.net  
**Subject:** Fwd:

-EXTERNAL-

Application No. 2203-10 (APL22-02). /3758 California Avenue, Long Beach, CA. 90807

Hello,  
I received the below letter from Nadine Longino regarding my appeal.  
Please add this to the file.  
Thank you,  
Elena D'Orio  
3758 California Ave.  
Long Beach, CA 90807

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Elena D'Orio <elenaleedorio@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 25, 2022 at 3:49 PM  
**Subject:**  
**To:** Elena <elenaleedorio@gmail.com>

The home at 3758 California Ave has a hearing Tuesday regarding the upgrades finished...

Absolutely a beautiful home.

Because of the owners careful approach to the history of this incredible neighborhood it stopped me in my tracks... I will be very disappointed if changes are enforced...the paint borrowed from neighbors ,so no color problems I would expect. The wall is necessary ,and in no way detracts, yet enhances, and there seems to be a myriad of walls gracing the area ...the Owner widened the driveway in order for her and her elderly father to exit their car safely...before this upgrade she had to let passengers out on street... please stop this needless, expensive move to destroy what we believe is a smooth evolution to a fine presentation...please be thoughtful in your deliberations... Thank you so very much...

Nadine Longino  
[nlongino@verizon.net](mailto:nlongino@verizon.net)



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Nadine Longino <nlongino@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 8:14 AM  
**To:** elena dorio; DV - Cultural Heritage; Alejandro Plascencia; Alison Spindler-Ruiz  
**Subject:** Re: Fwd:

-EXTERNAL-

Hope yesterday went well

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

On Monday, April 25, 2022, 3:56 PM, elena dorio <elenaleedorio@gmail.com> wrote:

Application No. 2203-10 (APL22-02). /3758 California Avenue, Long Beach, CA. 90807

Hello,  
I received the below letter from Nadine Longino regarding my appeal.  
Please add this to the file.  
Thank you,  
Elena D'Orio  
3758 California Ave.  
Long Beach, CA 90807

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Elena D'Orio** <[elenaleedorio@gmail.com](mailto:elenaleedorio@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, Apr 25, 2022 at 3:49 PM  
Subject:  
To: Elena <[elenaleedorio@gmail.com](mailto:elenaleedorio@gmail.com)>

The home at 3758 California Ave has a hearing Tuesday regarding the upgrades finished...

Absolutely a beautiful home.

Because of the owners careful approach to the history of this incredible neighborhood it stopped me in my tracks... I will be very disappointed if changes are enforced...the paint borrowed from neighbors ,so no color problems I would expect. The wall is necessary ,and in no way detracts, yet enhances, and there seems to be a myriad of walls gracing the area ...the Owner widened the driveway in order for her and her elderly father to exit their car safely...before this upgrade she had to let passengers out on street... please stop this needless, expensive move to destroy what we believe is a smooth evolution to a fine presentation...please be thoughtful in your deliberations... Thank you so very much...

Nadine Longino  
[nlongino@verizon.net](mailto:nlongino@verizon.net)



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Lisa Beal <herbluebody@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 4:26 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** 3758 California Ave - Support of enhancements

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Cultural Heritage Committee,

My name is Lisa Beal. I have lived in California Heights for 13 years. I love our community and work hard to make friends with my neighbors and make sure our house and our family is a positive presence in the neighborhood.

I would like to submit written testimony to support the enhancements made at 3758 California Ave. There is a hearing tomorrow, Tuesday, April 26th.

This house is beautiful and clean. And the simple matter is that a lot of the houses in California Heights, while historic, are not beautiful and are not clean. People do not have the money to spend on houses, especially when they grow older. I think it is an important matter to take into account the beauty of a home along with the historic preservation and people must be cut a little slack.

Elena D'Orio made enhancements to her house that are beautiful and make the house more livable in this ever changing society. A safe front porch is an ever increasing need. A safe and roomy driveway for modern cars is a need.

I appreciate the Historical Committee's work, but would like to suggest for the Historical Committee's recommendations to evolve with the changing times.

Please feel free to reach out to me at 818-681-3672

Thank you,  
Lisa

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## Gina Casillas

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**From:** LINDA DILTS <ldilts@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 5:13 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application No.:2203-10 (PL22-02)

**-EXTERNAL-**

I am responding to the hearing of 3758 California Avenue. I live across the street from this house(I live at 3761) and have lived here for 53 years. During that time the house has only had 3 owners. The first owner(even though they were very nice) never took care of the yard & I had to look at overgrown flower beds with weeds & grass that always needed cutting. The second owner(took care of the yard) but turned the house into a B & B plus a rental behind the garage. Now I had to look at people coming and going and cars parked everywhere.

This third owner is wonderful. She has improved her driveway so that she can fit her two cars in the drive; the yard in immaculate; the fence fits her Spanish style home & the color is refreshing.

Her improvements on her home is raising the price on my home and I so appreciate it. Please do not fine her for anything. She is a positive homeowner in our area helping to improve the looks of California Heights.

Thank you.

Linda Dilts  
~~3761 California Ave~~

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## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Karen Highberger <khhighberger@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 5:26 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage; Historic Preservation; Alejandro Plascencia; CityClerk  
**Subject:** Comments from the California Heights Neighborhood Association on 3758 California Ave.  
**Attachments:** CHNA comments for CHC Hearing April 26.pdf

**-EXTERNAL-**

To Whom It May Concern,

Please enter this letter into the record of the CHC Hearing April 26 and please distribute copies to all the CHC Commissioners.

Thank you,

California Heights Neighborhood Association



April 22, 2022

To: [Cultural.Heritage@longbeach.gov](mailto:Cultural.Heritage@longbeach.gov), [historicpreservation@longbeach.gov](mailto:historicpreservation@longbeach.gov),  
[Alejandro.Plascencia@longbeach.gov](mailto:Alejandro.Plascencia@longbeach.gov), [cityclerk@longbeach.gov](mailto:cityclerk@longbeach.gov)

Comments from the California Heights Neighborhood Association (CHNA) on the property located at 3758 California Ave.

The CHNA wants to express its support of the Staff Recommendation to deny the appeal and uphold the partial denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness to legalize front yard work including the installation of a low perimeter wall, the installation of a new concrete walkway and steps, the installation of a gate across the porch, the removal of a 12" tall concrete curb abutting the driveway, the installation of inappropriate pavers to widen the driveway and the repainting of the house, wall and garage.

The CHNA works very hard to educate the residents of California Heights on the rules and requirements of living in a Historic District. Information is available on our website, and we feature articles in our newsletter. Residents of California Heights are proud of their neighborhood and most residents are respectful of the Design Guidelines and their neighbors. We also have an email address and phone number for residents to contact with any questions about the process and we promptly reply. When this project started, Board members were contacted by multiple residents complaining about un-permitted work that was in obvious violation of the Guidelines.

This home is a contributing property in the District. The alterations the homeowner made to the property diminishes the historic fabric of the home. The low wall and gate would never have been approved, since it gives a false sense of history, and the enclosed space is larger than other homes in the neighborhood, thus breaking up the visual rhythm of the streetscape. Many Spanish style homes in the neighborhood have original courtyards or patios on the front elevation. They are much more modest in size and most important of all, they are original to the home. The widening of the driveway and the use of contemporary pavers is visually jarring. The paint color is inappropriate for a Spanish Colonial Revival style home in a Historic District and the front walkway is a major change to the front elevation. Regarding the driveway gates, it would be best if they are installed at the same location as the iron gates shown in the "before" photos. The changes to this home are in violation of both the Secretary of the Interior Standards and the California Heights Historic District Guidelines. CHNA appreciates the diligence Staff has shown on this challenging project and hopefully the homeowner will appreciate the efforts on behalf of Staff to work with her with the compromises they are proposing.

We respectfully request that Staff add another condition of approval- the removal of the decorative lighting the homeowner has attached to the restored historic lamppost on the parkway. It could potentially damage the lamppost and the decorative top globe.

California Heights Neighborhood Association



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Diana McWaid <DIANAMCWAID@YAHOO.COM>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 6:21 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** re: application no 2203-10 (APL22-02 - Comment

**-EXTERNAL-**

To Whom It May Concern.

I understand that the resident at 3758 California added modifications to the front of the property. While I believe that the resident should have followed the historical protocol, I do not think that the changes detract from the appeal of the property. The color is similar to other Spanish style properties, e.g. 3751 Olive. The front lawn and retaining wall is aesthetically pleasing. I have lived in California Heights since 1994 and have seen much worse and in fact I wish there was some way to address some of the less attractive decaying properties or those with dirt or plastic for a front yard.

I support the changes to the front yard of the property.

Thank you for your consideration.

Diana McWaid (3729 Myrtle Avenue)

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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**Gina Casillas**

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**From:** Mary Beth Hyde <marybeth.hyde@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 10:06 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** App 2203-10 (APL22-02) Hearing on April 26, 2022

**-EXTERNAL-**

To Whom It May Concern,

As a former owner of three homes in the California Heights District and current resident in the adjoining Los Cerritos neighborhood, I strongly support Ms.D'Orio's appeal for the enhancements she has done on 3758 California Avenue. Her improvements have been exactly that. She has improved the safety of her home by widening the too-narrow driveway, providing an attractive low wall to secure her dog and deter uninvited guests on her property, and created a walkway to her front door where there wasn't one, allowing a safe entrance up an incline on her front yard. All of this was done preserving the integrity of her Spanish-style home in the same character of the neighborhood. I also noticed that there is an objection to terra cotta color that she chose to enhance her home. There are at least five other houses painted in the same color in the area between Lime and Orange Avenues & Wardlow and Bixby Roads. On the subject of the materials used to widen her driveway, her choice is completely consistent with others in the area that I just mentioned.

I am not sure why this homeowner is being singled out as there are many homes which **are** unsightly and out of character for the neighborhood. I believe the upgrades made at 3758 California Avenue are significant improvements and provide a great value to this special neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Hyde



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** John Moreland <jrmoreland@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 10:21 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Cc:** Gina Casillas  
**Subject:** Comment on 3758 California Avenue

**-EXTERNAL-**

Hello,

My name is John Moreland and I live within the California Heights Historic District. When I purchased my house in 2013, I knew that coming into the district meant that special rules applied. It said so on my loan papers. In Long Beach, there are a number of design guidelines that were created and took years to develop and establish. In order for a cohesive district to exist, all properties must play by the same rules. Rules are meant to be followed and it's the government's job to enforce them. Police officers protect and serve everyone in the community, based on the rules they enforce. Taxes, determined by a different set of rules, are paid by all rule-following members of the community. Police cannot ignore robberies at one particular basis and people cannot exempt themselves from a sales tax if it is not part of the law. Although design guidelines do not capture as many headlines as robberies or taxes, they are still rules that need to be followed.

Staff has made the determination that the proposed project does not meet the California Heights Design Guidelines. Their justification is well documented in the attachment of the Staff Report. It may be convenient to turn a blind eye to this applicant, but what precedence would this be setting? Where does one draw the line between helping the homeowner or preserving the Historic District? If this gets approved, next month there could be an illegal addition, then a new second story, and so on. The District would lose its character. Please do not allow this dangerous precedence to happen. Follow Staff's recommendation of denying the appeal. Thank you.

John Moreland  
~~3470 Brayton Avenue~~

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## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Lindsey Holland <hollandleelindsey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 9:40 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application No.: 2203-10 (APL22-02) at 3758 California Avenue

**-EXTERNAL-**

Good morning,

This e-mail correspondence is in reference to Application No.: 2203-10 (APL22-02) at 3758 California Avenue. I am a resident of the neighborhood and I was taking a walk when I passed by this home and saw a public notice posted on the lawn. I wanted to show my support for the improvements of this home because wow it looks beautiful. It is a shame this resident is being punished for these improvements. The modifications fit with the California Heights neighborhood and the home still represents the uniqueness of spanish style architecture that makes this neighborhood charming. I walk past homes in this neighborhood that are falling apart or look neglected yet that is accepted when someone else is being punished for wanting to improve their home? What a shame. The cultural committee should praise residents who want to maintain their homes, not punish them.

- Sincerely,  
Lindsey Holland



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Denise Bennett <denise@deniserecruits.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 9:42 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application: 2203-10 (APL22-02)

**-EXTERNAL-**

I am emailing you in support of the home owner at 3758 California Ave, Long Beach. Application: 2203-10.  
I reside at 3639 California and have lived her for 22 years.  
I am in support of the homeowner and the work and effort she put into her home.  
She hasn't changed integrity of the house and the modification are much more appealing to the eye.  
The before photo looks like an abandoned property.

Thanks for your time!

~Denise

Denise Bennett  
Executive Recruiter  
Phone: 949-900-0343 Direct  
Email: [denise@deniserecruits.com](mailto:denise@deniserecruits.com)  
[www.linkedin.com/in/denisebennett](http://www.linkedin.com/in/denisebennett)

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**Gina Casillas**

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**From:** andrea sears <andreacsears@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 11:11 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** 3758 California Ave

-EXTERNAL-

To CHC members,

I have lived in Cal Heights and Bixby Knolls for 35 years and think that the resident at 3758 California Ave. enhanced the properties appearance immensely.

I walk with a group of ladies three times a week and I've gone up and down all the streets and Bixby Knolls and Cal Heights area on a consistent basis. We have seen and walked by this home prior, during, and after the improvements have been made.

We have commented to each other how the well the owner has improved her home with the low wall, the garden and the color of the home. It is perfect for the Spanish style revival and fits perfectly with the other neighborhood homes.

I appeal to the CHC not to single out one homeowner unless they go through the whole neighborhood and start with all the homes with similar colors and low walls. I and the group of ladies that I walk with think that's one of the prettiest homes on California, a busy street where her garden, yard and home is enhanced.

If you have any questions or would like to get a hold of me you may. A long time resident of Myrtle Ave.

Sincerely,  
Andrea Sears

Sent from my iPhone



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** andrea sears <asears562@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 1:25 PM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** 3758 California Ave

-EXTERNAL-

>> To CHC members,

>>

>> I have lived in Cal Heights and Bixby Knolls for 35 years and believe that the resident at 3758 California Ave. enhanced their property's appearance immensely.

>> I walk with a group of ladies three times a week and I've gone up and down all the streets of Bixby Knolls and Cal Heights area on a consistent basis. We have viewed while walking by this home prior, during, and after the improvements have been made.

>> We have commented to each other how well the owner has improved her home with the low wall, the garden and the color of the home. It is perfect for the Spanish style revival and fits perfectly with the other neighborhood homes.

>> I appeal to the CHC not to single out one homeowner, unless they go through the whole neighborhood, and start with all the homes with similar colors and low walls. I and the group of ladies that I walk with think that's one of the prettiest homes on California, a busy street where her garden, yard and home is enhanced.

>> If you have any questions or would like to get a hold of me you may. A long time resident of Myrtle Ave.

>>

>> Sincerely,

>> Andrea Sears

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone speaking



## Gina Casillas

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**From:** Nancy Cherin <ncherin@westerlyschool.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 11:19 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Subject:** Application No.: 2203-10 (APL22-02)

**-EXTERNAL-**

To whom it may concern on the Cultural Heritage Committee,

My name is Nancy Brookhart Cherin and I have lived at 3755 California Ave. for over 19 years. We moved to this neighborhood because of its history, charm, and dedication to maintaining the historical homes.

Since moving in, property owner Elena D'Orio has done a great job improving the property in question, making it an asset to the community. I look on at this property regularly as it is directly across the street. I am so pleased with the improvements and look of the work done. It seems to not only fit into the landscape of the neighborhood, but to be a marked improvement to this residence.

The drought tolerant landscaping, although not in question, is a big enhancement. The color of the house fits into the neighborhood and seems to match several other homes in the Cal Heights historic district. My understanding is there is an email accepting the color choice, so am unsure of why that is now something under debate. The widening of the driveway was a necessity. I have watched for years as this and previous owners have struggled to get out of the car, or have had to unload in the street because the space was too narrow to be able to safely open the door. Now that the current resident has a disabled relative who needs more convenient access to and from the vehicles and closer access to the house, it seems to be an equity, accessibility and inclusivity issue that she has resolved. The low-lying border wall is also an attractive and professional addition to the property, and seems to fit as though it has always been there.

Ms. D'Orio has been a wonderful neighbor, one who is dedicated to making improvements to her property in a way that shows she is proud of the history and bones of not only her historic home, but of those homes around hers.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any further questions,

All the best,  
Nancy Brookhart Cherin

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**Gina Casillas**

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**From:** Elena D'Orio <elenaleedorio@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 11:17 AM  
**To:** DV - Cultural Heritage  
**Cc:** Alejandro Plascencia  
**Subject:** Application No. 2203-10 (APL22-02) 3758 California Ave.  
**Attachments:** D'Orio, E. Letter.pdf

-EXTERNAL-

Hi,  
Please add this to the appeal meeting.  
Elena D'Orio

Thank you,  
Elena  
562.225.9210



April 26, 2022

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

**RE: D'ORIO, ELENA**

To Whom It May Concern,

Pursuant to the request of my patient, Elena, I am writing to memorialize that she has been under my care since 2012. Over the years that I have known Elena, she has had many responsibilities since her divorce, the loss of her sister and the loss of her 30-year career due to the pandemic. Elena is currently caring for her father and has been very responsible in his care. When she first purchased her current home, she had expressed her wishes to create a calm, soothing and warm living space and that she hopes to live there forever. Elena's renovations to her front lawn, while on a small budget, not only created a safe green space, it created community while supporting her mental health. Please consider this letter documenting my support for her.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

Sincerely,



NATHAN E. LAVID, MD, DFAPA  
Diplomate, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology

NEL: ty

