

June 26, 2021

TO: Chair and Cultural Heritage Commissioners; Gina Casillas, Project Planner; Alejandro Plascencia, Preservation Planner; Alison Spindler-Ruiz, Advance Planning Officer; Patricia Diefenderfer, Planning Bureau Manager; Monique DeLaGarza, City Clerk

FROM: Long Beach Heritage

RE: Cultural Heritage Commission Item No. 2, June 29, 2021; 21-018CH; 3042 East 6th Street

Long Beach Heritage agrees with Development Services Staff about their recommendations for amending plans for the second story addition and changes to the exterior of the contributing residence at 3042 East 6th Street in the Rose Park South Historic District. The present proposal includes an 1199 square foot addition, which is larger than the 936 square foot house, built in 1913. This addition should be reduced in size and set back further from the street because its massing will overwhelm the fabric of the historic home. The present design of the addition does not conform to the Secretary of the Interior Standards.

The proposal for 3042 East 6th Street also includes modifying and replacing original windows that are character defining elements of the Craftsman style of construction. The tiny windows placed high in the walls are not acceptable changes for a Craftsman residence. The present historic double-hung windows should be preserved, not removed.

In addition, the roof of the addition will have shorter eaves than those of the existing home. This element is incompatible with the original residence and should be amended in the plan so that all of the roof overhangs are the same size and project out 24 inches.

Some of the changes proposed for the dwelling at 3042 East 6th Street do not conform to the Secretary of the Interior Standards for scale and massing, in particular, Standards 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, and 10. Scale is an important character defining attribute of historic buildings and one of the unifying factors in historic districts. In order to protect both the character of the historic property and the visual consistency of the neighborhood, additions that are over 50% of the size of the original house are not recommended.

Long Beach Heritage believes that the proposed addition for 3042 East 6th Street should be scaled down and that the original windows of the house should be retained. Also, the eaves of the addition should match the size of those on the 1913 residence. The project should conform to the Rose Park South Historic District Guidelines.

Louise Ivers, Ph.D., Long Beach Heritage Board Member

livers@csudh.edu

(562) 436-2405