

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW  
STAFF REPORT  
August 23, 2016 Meeting**

1. **CAR No. 16-120** (F. Cava) **2519 West Grace Street  
West Grace Street Old and Historic District**

**Project Description:** **Add 2 feet of lattice screening  
to the top of an existing 6' privacy fence.**

**Staff Contact:** **M. Pitts**

The applicant requests approval add lattice to the top of an existing wooden privacy fence at the rear of a mid-block home in the West Grace Street Old and Historic District. The proposed fence will be 8 feet in height total. Currently, there is a 6 foot tall fence constructed of horizontally oriented wooden boards. The applicant proposes to install 2 feet of lattice above the existing fence. As Section 30-630.9 (b) of the Zoning Ordinance limits the height of fences in the R-48 District to 6 ½ feet, the applicant has been informed that an administrative variance would be required for the proposed fence.

**Staff recommends approval of the project.** The *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* state that new fences should be constructed using materials and designs appropriate to the Old and Historic District and that rear-yard privacy fences should mimic traditional fence designs (pg. 74, #4, #7). The proposed fence is constructed of wood which is a material found throughout the District in the construction of privacy fences. The applicant is proposing a similar design as found on the privacy fence at 2516 Monument Avenue which includes lattice work on top of a traditional privacy fence.

It is the assessment of staff that the application is consistent with the Standards for Rehabilitation in Section 30-930.7(b) of the City Code, as well as with the *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines*, specifically the pages cited above, adopted by the Commission for review of Certificates of Appropriateness under the same section of the code.