

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
August 28, 2018 Meeting**

7. COA-039279-2018 (Z. Gertz)

**620 North Boulevard
Boulevard Old and Historic District**

Project Description:

**Construct wood fence with brick
piers around the rear yard.**

Staff Contact:

C. Jeffries

The applicant requests approval to enclose the rear yard with a wood fence with brick piers at this brick Colonial Revival dwelling in the Boulevard Old and Historic District. The proposed fence has a total height of 7 feet, with wood fence panels on a 2 foot high brick wall between the 16"x16" brick piers. The fence will enclose the rear yard with a pedestrian gate for access.

Staff recommends approval of the project with conditions. The *Guidelines* state that new fences should be constructed using materials and designs appropriate to the district and rear yard fences should mimic traditional fence designs (pg.76, #4, #7). Staff was unable to locate a rear fence or wall of a similar design, though residential properties within the district typically have a wooden privacy fence or brick wall in the rear. As the proposed design does not mimic a traditional fence design and proposes a mix of materials not common in the district for rear fences, staff recommends a wooden privacy fence or brick wall be installed, rather than the proposed design. The revised design should be submitted to staff for administrative review and approval.

As a detail of the proposed gate was not provided, staff recommends a gate detail be submitted for administrative review and approval.

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