

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
February 28, 2017 Meeting**

4. **CAR No. 17-029** (Cava Capital, LLC)

**717 North 24th Street
Union Hill Old and Historic District**

Project Description: **Remove vinyl siding, restore wood siding and install fiber cement siding on secondary elevations, and remove storm door and awnings.**

Staff Contact: **C. Jeffries**

The applicant requests approval to rehabilitate the exterior of a home in the Union Hill Old and Historic District. The applicant proposes to remove all existing vinyl siding from the altered frame vernacular structure. The applicant proposes to install smooth, unbeaded fiber cement siding on the secondary elevations and restore the existing wooden siding on the primary elevation. The applicant also proposes to remove the existing awnings and storm door from the front of the dwelling. The proposed paint scheme is:

- Siding: Evening Blue
- Trim and Porch: Extra White
- Porch Steps: Online Gray
- Front Door: Deep Sea Dive

Staff recommends approval of the project as submitted. In general, the proposed rehabilitation meets the Commission's guidelines for rehabilitation found on page 57 of the *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* as the applicant is proposing to remove the vinyl siding, restore the wood siding on the front elevation, and replace these elements with a material that better replicates wood on the secondary elevations. The *Guidelines* note that fiber cement siding is a product with limited applications which include being used on secondary elevations with limited visibility from the public right of way (pg. 58). The applicant will remove all the vinyl siding and restore the wood siding beneath on the front elevation. Though the proposed fiber cement siding will be visible, staff supports its installation if the historic siding is unable to be restored.

The Commission's paint palette notes that medium blue is an appropriate color for the walls of Greek Revival frame structures, with neutral or dark trim. Staff supports the proposed paint scheme with the blue and white colors. The palette also notes that blacks, browns and greens are appropriate for doors and neutrals for porch floors. Staff supports the proposed dark green for the front door and gray for the porch floor.

Staff supports the removal of the awnings and storm door as they are not appropriate for the District (pg. 70 #15).

It is the assessment of staff that the application, as submitted, 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.