

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

7. **CAR No. 17-035** (Brookwood Investments) **2519 West Grace Street  
West Grace Street Old and Historic District**

**Project Description:** **Paint the front façade dark grey.**

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

The applicant requests approval to paint the front façade of a structure in the West Grace Street Old and Historic District dark grey. The front façade of the brick structure is currently painted a light blue color. The applicant is proposing to paint this previously painted façade Cityscape (SW7076).

**Staff recommends denial of the project.** The Paint Palette in the *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* notes that colors associated with the colors of natural brick are strongly encouraged. While the paint palette includes colors that resemble brown and yellow clay bricks including a light grey brown color, the proposed dark grey color is not a color recommended for masonry as it is not a natural brick color. Staff recommends denial of the proposed dark brown color. The applicant may paint the structure the same color as it is currently painted without CAR review or a color from the paint palette for masonry structures which can be reviewed and approved administratively.

It is the assessment of staff that the application is not consistent with the Standards for Rehabilitation outlined in Sections 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 page cited above, adopted by the Commission for review of Certificates of Appropriateness under the same section of the code.