



**Staff Report**  
**City of Richmond, Virginia**



**Commission of Architectural Review**

1. COA-109599-2022	<b>Final Review</b>	<b>Meeting Date: 4/26/2022</b>
<b>Applicant/Petitioner</b>	Janice Carter-Lovejoy	
<b>Project Description</b>	Replace front and rear wooden porch railings with aluminum.	
<b>Project Location</b>		
<b>Address: 604 W. 19<sup>th</sup> St.</b>		
<b>Historic District: Springhill</b>		
<b>High-Level Details:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant proposes to replace front and rear wooden porch railings with white, aluminum porch railings on a single family house built in 2016.</li> <li>The proposed aluminum railings will have the appearance of Richmond rail.</li> </ul>		
<b>Staff Recommendation</b>	<b>Approval</b>	
<b>Staff Contact</b>	Emily Routman, Emily.routman@rva.gov	
<b>Previous Reviews</b>	None	
<b>Conditions for Approval</b>	None	

**Staff Analysis**

Guideline Reference	Reference Text	Analysis
Substitute Materials #3, pg. 61	<i>The problems associated with the use of poor quality original materials can be remedied by in-kind replacement. If in-kind materials cannot be found, or are impractical, substitute materials can be use.</i>	Through photo documentation the applicant has demonstrated that the existing railings are deteriorated. The owners of the units wish to replace them with a more durable material as the longevity of the wood was not as long as expected. Staff is supportive of the

		installation of a more durable substitute material.
Porches & Porch Details, pg. 49	<p>2. When designing a new railing for a new infill building, or for an existing building which has lost its railing and for which no documentary or physical evidence survives, the balusters in the traditional Richmond rail are generally rectangular in section (with the narrow dimension facing the street) or square. The baluster is fitted into the recess in the top rail and a sloped bottom rail. Typical deck railings, consisting of nailed-up stock elements, are not approved as they are not based on a compatible historical model found in Richmond's Old and Historic Districts.</p> <p>3. New porch railing designs, compatible with the overall design of the building, will also be considered.</p>	The applicant proposes to replace rotted wooden porch railings on the front and rear with aluminum railings. The aluminum railings will have the appearance of Richmond rail and the design is compatible with the overall design of the building. <u>Staff recommends approval of the installation of front and rear metal railings.</u>

## Figures



Figure 1. Façade photo



Figure 2. Existing front porch with wood railings



Figure 3. Existing back porch with wood railings

Figure 4.