

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
October 28, 2014 Meeting**

3. **CAR No. 14-113** (M. Kurze) **4108 Hermitage Road
Hermitage Road Old and Historic District**

Project Description: **Replace asphalt drive with concrete pavers**

Staff Contact: **W. Palmquist**

The applicant requests approval to replace an existing asphalt and concrete drive with concrete pavers at the front of this property located in the Hermitage Road Old and Historic District. The existing asphalt and concrete drive is deteriorating and the applicant proposes replacing the entire drive with 6"x6" slate-colored concrete pavers in a running bond pattern. The drive will be edged with mortared Belgian blocks. The overall shape and size of the drive will remain the same

Staff recommends approval of the project. While the *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* does not have specific language regarding recommended driveway materials, it generally specifies that proposed materials for site improvements relate to those generally found in the neighborhood. While the majority of homes have asphalt drives, staff believes the proposed concrete pavers will relate well to the concrete sidewalks and driveway aprons found along Hermitage Road.

It is the assessment of staff that the application is consistent with the Standards for Site Improvements outlined in Section 114.930.7(e) of the City Code, as well as with the *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines*, adopted by the Commission for review of Certificates of Appropriateness under the same section of code.