

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
June 24, 2014 Meeting**

2. **CAR No. 14-52** (W. Kaufman)

**6 S. Boulevard
Boulevard Old & Historic District**

Project Description:

Replace existing rear deck

Staff Contact:

C. Easterling

The applicant is requesting permission to replace an existing, non-historic deck with a new deck and screened porch that will have a slightly larger footprint at the second floor. The first floor of the existing porch is not visible from a public right-of-way, and the upper level includes some projections reminiscent of pergola rafters. The application calls for the construction of new upper and lower decks that will have the same footprint. The applicant proposes to screen in the lower porch.

Staff recommends approval of the project with a condition. The *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* allows the Commission of Architectural Review to approve the construction of new decks and porches, provided that the new feature is compatible with the historic character of a building and does not destroy any important architectural features (Decks, pg. 49). The elimination of the pergola-like rafters makes the new design more compatible with other rear porches and decks found in the immediate area. Staff recommends that the new deck should be painted or stained a neutral color that complements the colors used on the main house, in accordance with deck guideline number two listed on page 49 of the *Guidelines*.

It is the assessment of staff that the application is consistent with the Standards for New Construction outlined in Section 114-930.7(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.