

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
December 9, 2014 Meeting**

2. **CAR No. 14-146** (H. Harrison)

**1921 Princess Anne Ave
Union Hill Old & Historic District**

Project Description:

Install decorative fountain

Staff Contact:

K. Onufer

The applicant requests approval to install a decorative fountain with attendant benches and landscaping in Jefferson Park to provide an additional amenity in this popular park. The proposed fountain would be a traditional cast iron design similar to fountains found in Libby Hill and Monroe parks.

The cast iron fountain would be placed within a walled basin which would be constructed of brick and topped with a limestone cap. The fountain would be located within the park to provide maximum views of the city skyline and would include areas for benches and minimum low growing landscaping.

Staff recommends approval of the project. The *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* encourages landscape and streetscape that support well-designed public spaces (p.66). The fountain will serve as a public amenity and is well-located to support greater enjoyment of the park. The landscaping plan is suitable and appropriate for the site while providing a sense of scale, as recommended by the Standards for Site Improvements on page 66 of the Guidelines. The materials used—including the cast iron fountain, brick basin, limestone, and benches—are complementary to those throughout the district and existing park amenities.

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