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Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2020 10:44 AM

To: Susan H. Hellman <susan.hellman@alexandriava.gov>; Al Cox <Al.Cox@alexandriava.gov>

Cc: Dorothy Nagle <dorothynagle@msn.com>; Richard Klingenmaier <rhklingenmaier@gmail.com>; John Thorpe Richards <jtr@bogoradrichards.com>; Elaine Johnston <elj916@gmail.com>; Steve Milone <milonesteve@gmail.com>; yvonneweightcallahan@gmail.com; mhobbs27@comcast.net; Gail Rothrock <gcrothrock@gmail.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL]BAR 4/5/2020 Docket Nos. 4 and 5

I am sending this message for Gail. Her computer is "frozen" so she is not able to write you.

The subject property is on the southwest corner of Cameron and Pitt. It is in the historic core area of the Old and Historic District. It proposes to add to a mid-century modern building a structure that is totally out of character with the building itself. Moreover, it has a serious negative impact on the rhythm of the roof lines of the 500 block of Cameron Street - a very important core block of the Old and Historic District. It introduces a high 3rd story on what was a background statement brick building. The high flat third story has a huge impact on the adjoining gable roof masonry historic houses.

As the staff report points out:

"The vertical mass shown in the north elevation is out of scale with the building below and its smaller two story neighbors to the west."

Referring to the *Design Guidelines for the Old and Historic District*, "Additions to Commercial Buildings for Height:

"Additions can increase the height of existing buildings. **Any increase in height should generally reflect the existing heights of buildings in the immediate vicinity.**"

And the Design Guideline for Roof:

"The roof form should reflect the roof forms expressed along the blockface. The roof form for buildings on corner lots should generally reflect the roof forms found on the adjacent corner buildings.

In summary, this addition should not be placed on this corner building. At the least, I hope it will be sent back for restudy so that it will be only minimally viewed from Cameron and Pitt Streets. I also suggest that a lighter color surface be considered, even the same color brick, if you do send it back for restudy.

Thank you,

Gail C. Rothrock
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