

John Nyfeler, FAIA

Consulting Architect

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Steve Sadowsky, Chief Historic Preservation Officer

FIRM: City of Austin

DATE: June 18, 2014

REF: Back-up Material, Case C14-H-1976-0012, Morley Brothers Drug Store

ADDRESS: 209 East 6th Street, Austin

FROM: John Nyfeler, FAIA

Please accept this amendment to the back-up material related to the referenced case. The applicant requests approval by the Historic Landmark Commission of this amendment.

When the commission last heard the case on January 27, 2014, the Commission declined to approve the proposed ceramic tile overlay on the glass block pavers in the 6th Street sidewalk. Staff Recommendation was approved by the Commission: *"Consider an alternative to removing the glass block that will maintain the historic look and provide a safer, non-slip walking surface."*

While the applicant at no time considered or recommended a removal of the glass block pavers, the Commission directed the applicant to meet with you and staff of the Public Works Department and Dr. Bill Hadley and others in the Right-of-Way Department to find an acceptable alternative to the proposed ceramic tile to overlay the glass block pavers in the sidewalk at 209 East 6th Street. The Commission wants to be able to see the existing glass block pavers in the sidewalk.

That recommended meeting was held on February 4, 2014 among the referenced parties and the applicant was directed to seek a solution using a pedestrian grille through which the glass block pavers can be seen and that meets the Texas Accessibility Standards and the Americans' With Disabilities Act.

The applicant did as requested and found a stainless steel pedestrian grille that is accessible and that is sufficiently open to allow visibility of the glass block pavers through the grille.

This product and its application in this matter were presented to City of Austin representatives on June 11, 2014. Those from the City included Steve Sadowsky, Dr. Bill Hadley and Ernesto Gomez. The City representatives found the proposed alternative grille overlay to be an acceptable solution. Samples of the pedestrian grille were delivered to Mr. Gomez.

This amendment to the case therefore changes the scope of work and includes the abandonment of the ceramic tile overlay solution earlier proposed and includes the use of stainless steel pedestrian grille Manufactured by Hendrick Architectural Products, Stainless Steel, Pedestrian Screen, V-Wire Construction, framed, applied directly over the existing glass block sidewalk pavers.

The product in its application at 209 East 6th Street will conform to ADA Accessible Guidelines; Art. 4.5.4 Gratings, Section 302.3, that requires grille openings no greater than ½ inch and with long openings placed perpendicular to the path of sidewalk travel. (This requirement will allow the placement of the grille bars in the East-West direction as the path of travel will be North-South entering the doors to the building.)

The cost of this product is approximately \$75.00/SF and will be detailed with hardware for easy removal for cleaning and maintenance, sufficiently difficult to remove to prevent vandalism. The detail of the fastening will be as illustrated on the manufacturer's shop drawings. The manufacturer will apply its "Slip-Rock:" coating for increased slip resistance. The basin created over the glass block pavers will be drained by saw cut groove slots North-South to flow North to drain into the South 6th Street gutter.

Conceptual drawings are attached showing the work to be done in removal of the existing structural fritted glass panels and plywood cover and their replacement with the grilles.

The applicant requests the approval of the Historic Landmark Commission for this amendment so that this matter can proceed through the City permitting and construction process.

Please let me know if you have any questions in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



John V. Nyfeler, FAIA

Attachments:

- 1) Drawings SK-00, SK-01, SK-02 and SJK-03 dated June 16, 2014, one copy full size, three copies 11x17
- 2) Physical Samples of the Hendrick Architectural Products, V-Wire Pedestrian Grille.
- 3) Technical data on the slip resistance of this product from the manufacturer and its independent testing laboratory.
- 4) CD of the referenced drawings.