Lucas De Amaral

From: Adrian Brett

Sent: January 3, 2020 4:42 PM

To: Lisa Helps (Mayor); Marianne Alto (Councillor); Sharmarke Dubow (Councillor); Ben Isitt

(Councillor); Jeremy Loveday (Councillor); Sarah Potts (Councillor); Charlayne Thornton-

Joe (Councillor); Geoff Young (Councillor)

Cc: The English Cabinet Maker

Subject: Adding 1302 Finlayson to the Heritage Register

Hello Mayor and Council Members,

I'm writing on behalf of the owner, Mr. Paul Fisher, of the English Cabinet Maker shop located at 1302 Finlayson Street. We are currently mid-way through a small lot rezoning application that was recently before you at the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 28, 2019. The application as proposed will retain the mixed-use commercial building at the corner of Highview & Finlayson and add one additional single family residence at the back of the lot fronting onto Highview Street.

As part of the rezoning application, Mr. Fisher agreed with City staff to place the existing building located on his property on the City of Victoria's Heritage Register. Additional public benefits provided by this rezoning application will include a 0.86m wide road dedication and 2.5m wide statutory right of way along the Finlayson Street frontage to meet the City's targeted ROW width of 20m for Finlayson, a new curb and sidewalk along the neighboring Highview Street frontage leading to Highview Park, and a housing agreement placed on title to ensure the existing rental unit at 1302 Finalyson is retained into perpetuity.

In the recent City staff report presented to Council at the November 28 COTW meeting, staff recommended that the property be placed on the Heritage Register. However, at the recent Heritage Advisory Panel (HAPL) meeting held on December 11, 2019, the HAPL chose to recommend that the building instead be Heritage Designated.

A report regarding the property's heritage status will be presented before Council at the upcoming meeting on January 9, 2020. I have been informed by the City's Heritage Planner, that staff will again be recommending the property be added to the Heritage Register, as opposed to being Heritage Designated. A rezoning application with similar circumstances, 1029 Queen's Street, within which staff recommended the property be added to Register and HAPL recommended Heritage Designation, was presented to Council on December 12, and Council chose to follow the staff recommendation to add that property to the Register.

I urge you to again please follow the staff recommendation and add this property to the Heritage Register. From the beginning of the rezoning process Mr. Fisher agreed specifically to add 1302 Finlayson to the Register. In addition to the public benefits listed above that this application will provide to the City, Mr. Fisher plans to relocate from Sooke into the proposed single family home (which is to be just behind the English Cabinet Maker shop) so that he can eliminate the substantial daily commute to his business. This new home located next to his local business will provide the environmental benefit of eliminating Mr. Fishers carbon emissions from daily travel back and forth to Sooke.

Given these significant public and environmental benefits, we believe it would be fair to continue the course as initially agreed to with City staff to add 1302 Finalyson to the Heritage Register.

Kind regards,

Adrian Brett