

CORRESPONDENCE



**Neighborhood
Defense League
of California**

(formerly Homeowners Defense Fund)

1482 East Valley Road, Suite 252
Santa Barbara, CA 93108
fax: 805-969-0297

*Accommodating growth
while preserving the character
of our neighborhoods*

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Helene Schneider, Mayor, Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara City Council
735 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara CA 93101

August 8, 2011

Dear Mayor Schneider:

At our recent meeting, the Board of Directors of the Neighborhood Defense League authorized me to write a letter to each Councilperson on behalf of Ms. Pam Brandon, whose Appeal of a city zoning decision will appear before you on August 23rd.

Ms. Brandon, with the support of her neighbors, is appealing the decision by the ABR to approve the project at 903 West Mission Street. We have examined the project plans and urge the City Council to take her complaints very seriously. Clearly, the proposed design is alien to that of the neighborhood, and the fundamental issue of zoning – and its importance to neighborhood character – is at stake.

Property rights should not be abridged, true, but community values, as expressed in zoning, is a trust that each property owner relies upon to make ownership decisions. It is a matter of trust between citizen and government.

We do urge that Ms. Brandon's Appeal be given the highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Judith Ishkanian, President
For the Board of Directors
Neighborhood Defense League of California

ALLIED NEIGHBORHOODS ASSOCIATION

August 17, 2011

Santa Barbara City Council
City Hall
De la Guerra Plaza
Santa Barbara, Calif. 993101

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council

Allied Neighborhood Association members met July 18, 2011 and heard the concerns of the neighbor appealing the proposed project at 903 W. Mission.

After reviewing the long history of hearings, rehearings, and annulled approvals, Allied members expressed their disappointment and serious concerns about the manner in which this project has been handled by the City Staff and the Architectural Board of Review.

The determination of the project as to its design and the need for modifications were incorrectly made. Allied has long been concerned about the numerous projects that require modifications and has stated that a project should be designed to be constructed within the current zoning laws. Modifications are granted too frequently and are looked upon as a way to bypass zoning laws. This is wrong.

Another concern is the action of the members of the Architectural Board of Review who apparently had financial interest in the project but still sought to influence the decisions in this case.

Allied has a long record of supporting the principle of neighborhood compatibility in proposed projects. This project is not compatible with the surrounding neighborhood. While Allied understands that some flexibility in design is acceptable this design goes beyond what is acceptable. Ask yourselves whether you would like this project built in your neighborhood or next to your home? If you cannot say yes then how can you support this project in someone else's neighborhood?

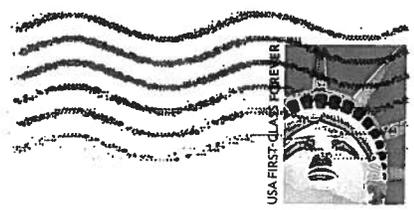
Allied asks you to uphold the appeal. Thank you

Sincerely,

Cathie McCammon, President
Allied Neighborhoods Associations
www.sb-allied.org

From: STEVEN CARTER, AIA
146 WESTMONT RD.
SB, CA. 93108

SANTA BARBARA
CA 931 11
11 AUG 2011 PM

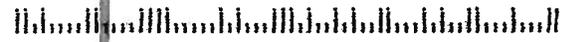


- I support the remodel/addition project at 903 W. Mission Street
- The design has been consistent since the SHO Approval on 7/28/10 to Final ABR Approval on 5/16/11
- Heidi Ferguson has followed all SB Plan & Zoning Ordinances, Municipal Codes and has made changes per City Council's recommendations & the Appellant's concerns.

To: SB City Clerk
Attention: City Council
P.O. Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA 93102


Signature 8-11-11 Date

9310231990



SEPARATE, SIGNED COPIES OF THIS CARD WERE ALSO RECEIVED FROM:

- M. KIRKHART (29 W. CALLE LAURELES)
- SUE YOUNG (143 SAN RAFAEL AVE)
- DENNIS MORELOS (2007 ROBBINS ST)
- JOSH AND SUZANNE BLUMER (3161 LUCINDA LN)
- ELLEN STRATTON (89 LASSEN DR)
- CIRO COELHO
- MICHAEL INGHAM (1812 GILLESPIE ST)
- KIYOKO SOARING-EAGLE (1926 GILLESPIE ST)

8-16-2011

I am writing you this letter so you all can consider what is fair for Heidi Ferguson w. her project & approved building permits. It seem like she has processed all of her permits which have been approved. Its not fair (proper) for someone to delay all the construction. Please let her enjoy her dream & finish her project.

Sincerely
Armando Rivera
(805) 455-5330
809 W. Peregasa St.
S.B. Ca. 93101

RECEIVED

AUG 17 2011

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
SANTA BARBARA, CA