

Re: Permit Application for Replacement of Existing Windows and Door

Dear Town of Los Gatos Community Development Department,

I am writing regarding our permit application to replace the existing windows and door at our family home in Los Gatos. The home is owned by my parents and is approximately 100 years old. Many of the windows and doors appear to be original to the house and are an important part of its character.

I recently moved back into the home with my children, and my parents have graciously allowed us to make this wonderful house our family home. We appreciate both the history of the property and the character it contributes to the surrounding neighborhood. Our intention with this project is not to modernize or significantly change the appearance of the house. Rather, we are trying to make it safe, functional, and better able to protect the interior from the elements while preserving its existing aesthetic as closely as reasonably possible.

Unfortunately, many of the existing windows no longer function as they were intended. Some have been painted shut, while others have deteriorated operating mechanisms and no longer stay open safely. Recently, while I was opening one of the windows, the upper sash suddenly came down and struck my index finger. As a dentist whose livelihood depends heavily on the use of my hands, it was a frightening reminder that these windows have progressed beyond being simply inconvenient and have become a legitimate safety concern. Fortunately, I was not seriously injured.

The windows also no longer provide the protection from seasonal weather and temperature changes that they once did. After approximately a century of service, we believe replacement is necessary to make the home safe and functional for another generation.

We have been working with Home Depot to select replacement windows and doors that match the existing appearance of the home as closely as possible within the options available from the manufacturer. Our goal is to retain the proportions, configuration, and overall visual character of the existing windows and doors rather than alter the architectural appearance of the house.

We understand and respect the Town's interest in preserving the historic character and appearance of older Los Gatos homes. We share that goal. We are simply asking for the ability to replace components that have reached the end of their functional life with safe, weather-resistant replacements that remain consistent with the character of the home.

We appreciate the Town's consideration of our application and are happy to provide photographs, measurements, manufacturer specifications, or any additional information that would assist in the review.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Zachary Ian Boger

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