

From: Maria Ristow <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2022 10:15 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Cc: Warren Ristow [REDACTED]
Subject: 253 W. Main Street, appeal of HPC decision

EXTERNAL SENDER

Good evening,

We live in the Broadway Historic district, in a historic home, and we support the Wasserman family's request. They are building a brand new home in a historic district. Their proposed use of a 300-year-old antique wood door, with sentimental and historic value, will immediately tie the home back to the origins of California and add to the visual interest of the entry.

It's impossible to understand how a new door made in China could possibly be preferable to a 300-year old wood church door from Mexico that graced another Los Gatos home for five decades. In the interests of Historic Preservation, we believe preserving family history will only make the new home at 253 W. Main fit better into the Broadway Historic District.

The historic guidelines encourage Victorians to be painted multiple colors, require window styles to remain authentic, and overall look to keeping the charming character of our downtown alive. Our homes are varied styles, colors, ages, lending a lovely eclectic and authentic look to the district. The use of this antique family door seems like the perfect answer to helping a new home contribute to our history.

Please grant the appeal and allow the Wassermans to use the family door on their new home. The neighborhood is asking!

Thank you,
Warren and Maria Ristow
[REDACTED]

From: Christopher Morgan [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 4, 2023 1:27 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's Door

EXTERNAL SENDER

Hello Planning Commission,

I'm writing in regards to Mike Wasserman's front door. Mike and his family have been richly intertwined with Los Gatos for many years. I remember walking down Andrews Ave. to go to Collectors Corner (Mike's shop) to buy comic cards and candy as a kid. Years later I find that Mike, my neighbor was the guy I'd see every weekend behind the counter. Wild stuff. My family has lived in Los Gatos since the 40s and in that time there have been a lot of changes here. My grandmothers childhood home, that they built from adobe on highway 9, was "absorbed" into a modern home build years ago. This saddens me, but I understand progress never stops.

The towns reaction to Mikes plea to use his family's historic front door greatly disturbs me. It is an absolutely gorgeous piece of historic craftsmanship, and as a professional woodworker/sculptor, it gives me great joy to see it when I pass by.

There is a security factor to be addressed as well. The historic door is very thick and safe, a feature which we were required to abide by when building our own home on Main Street years ago. I personally feel that the proposed glass door would invite a level of exposure and potential danger to Mike and Kim. They, like us, are on a main frontage street. We do not have long driveways, so security measures must be taken where possible. Mike has been the target of protestors and threats in the past few years, and most of the neighbors feel that a clear glass door would be a mistake.

My third point of contention is simply freedom. Would YOU like to be told what type of front door you could use on a house you shelled out hundreds of thousands of dollars to build? Would your life be more full and happy making your own choices? Our elected leadership needs to start taking into consideration the freedoms that make life great here, lest we end up like every other once colorful and vibrant town that was extinguished and reduced to gray monotony.

Let the man put in his family door :) It means more to him than the modern glass door means to you. Mike has and always will have the full support of the neighborhood, because that's how we do things on Main Street.

Sincerely,
Chris Morgan

LG business owner
Sculptor
Friendly Neighbor

From: Marc Dubresson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 4, 2023 6:55 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's door

EXTERNAL SENDER

To whom it may concern.

I reside in the immediate neighborhood [REDACTED] of Kim and Mike Wasserman's new residence. I have seen the historic door in setting, with surrounding glass panels and find it perfectly fits the historic character of this beautiful Los Gatos street. Los Gatos is about personality and distinction and that door will be as much of a talking point as the interesting architecture of the house it is attached to and the rest of the unique residences surrounding it. Please allow this piece to stand.

Regards,

Marc Dubresson

From: claire leclair [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 10:43 AM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman Door

EXTERNAL SENDER

"I've seen the Wasserman's wonderful hand carved historic wooden door and definitely think they should be able to use it as their new front door in the Town's Historic District." Sincerely, Claire Leclair

From: Suzanne Meinhardt [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 12:08 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's door

EXTERNAL SENDER

I support the Wasserman's door choice and I hope you will also.
Suzanne Meinhardt
[REDACTED]
Los Gatos, Ca 95030

From: Howard Labe [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 12:20 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Cc: Jill Nakamura [REDACTED]
Subject: Wasserman's Door

EXTERNAL SENDER

Dear Planning commission,

After visiting Mike Wasserman's home, I've seen the Wasserman's wonderful hand carved historic wooden door and definitely think they should be able to use it as their new front door in the Town's Historic District.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Howard Labe
[REDACTED]

From: Dorothy B [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 4:32 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Washerman's front door

EXTERNAL SENDER

I don't believe that the planning department should decide about a resident's front door. This is a historical family door, and most appropriate for a home in our Los Gatos historical district. I urge you to approve the Wasserman's appeal.

Thank you,
Dorothy Burke

From: Camila Mardesich [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 5:56 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman - front door

EXTERNAL SENDER

Hello Planning Dept.

Wanted to drop a line to share our sentiments that we really enjoy the historic wooden Wasserman door in lieu of the originally planned door. Our corner of heaven is historic and we really appreciate the fact that we can maintain some sentimental value and nostalgia to those who care the most.

Sincerely,
The Mardesich Family on Broadway

From: Marlene Ferrigno [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 7:32 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Washerman Front Door

EXTERNAL SENDER

We live at [REDACTED] The Washerman's are our new neighbors. Please allow them to install their historical front wood doors. It is the best choice for our block. We don't want to have to look at aluminum glass doors that do not compliment the rest of our homes, Thank you, Marlene & Louis Ferrigno

From: Frank [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 8:13 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's Door

EXTERNAL SENDER

Hello,

I would like to request that the attached PDF be included in the 1/11/2023 Planning Commission item to consider Mike Wasserman's appeal to approve his front door. Please feel free to let me know if this would be possible.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Much appreciated,

Frank Villalobos

January 5, 2023

Planning Commission
Town of Los Gatos
110 E. Main St.
Los Gatos, CA 95030

RE: Approval of Mr. Mike Wasserman's Front Door

Esteemed Members of the Planning Commission,

I write to offer my support for Mike Wasserman's appeal to have his front door approved.

I must note that Mr. Wasserman has obtained his neighbors' approval for the front door, and having seen the door myself, I find no logical reason why such a historic door would not be approved; it does not have an outlandish or unfitting design/color that would negatively impact the character of the Town's Historic District.

I have also been following Mr. Wasserman's long and arduous home building process which has only been exacerbated by the ongoing pandemic, supply chain issues, and more recently, an economic downturn. There is no doubt that the previous action taken by the commission has been yet another obstacle which is only prolonging this process.

On a more personal note, the door's Mexican origin is also a reflection of the diversity and tolerance of Los Gatos and its residents. Let's ensure that we continue to embrace these values, especially in this case where it perfectly complements the historic aesthetic of the town.

I ask that you please grant Mike Wasserman his appeal. Thank you for your consideration.

Kindly,

Frank Villalobos

From: Cameron Hunter [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 8:26 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's door

EXTERNAL SENDER

To whom it may concern,

I think it's silly a decision about a person's door even had to go to the Planning Commission. The Wasserman's historic hand carved door is aesthetically nicer than an aluminum and glass door. It is clearly more appropriate in the historic district, and safer, too. Please grant their Appeal.

Sincerely,

Cameron & Catriona Hunter

From: Philip Knopf [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 8:53 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Mike Wasserman's Front Door

EXTERNAL SENDER

Members of the Los Gatos Planning Commission:

I am writing this email in support of the installation of the Heritage carved wooden doors at the new home Mike Wasserman and his wife Kim are building at 253 West Main Street.

I remember seeing these impressive doors at Mike's parents' home when he had his initial campaign rally 20 years ago, when he was running for the Los Gatos Town Council.

I am a builder and remember outstanding woodwork.

I think it is wonderful Mike was able to salvage and repurpose such a valuable piece of woodwork. Also, something that has a lot of history and so much meaning to him and his family.

These doors share much the same character as the front door of the Historic Firehouse/Museum building across the street.

I am asking you to approve the request by the Wasserman's to install the Heritage Wood Carved doors in their new home.

Regards
Phil Knopf

From: Linda Loew [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 5:32 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's door

EXTERNAL SENDER

As a home owner and resident since 1985 living in the Almond Grove, I approve the Wasserman's historic wooden door.

Regards,
Linda Loew
[REDACTED], Los Gatos

From: Nadav Buzi [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 9:43 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's door

EXTERNAL SENDER

Dear Planning Commission,

As nearby neighbors, we would like to voice our wholehearted support for the beautifully hand carved door at the Wasserman's home. Its historic nature and design would only add to the lovely character of our neighborhood. Please allow the Wasserman family to keep their door, and wonderful family tradition, in place.

Sincerely yours,

Sharon and Nadav Buzi

From: Jim Fuller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 11:03 PM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's door

EXTERNAL SENDER

A few points on this subject:

1. This is the silliest thing you could possibly be wasting time on... if you really don't have anything better to do with PC time and Town resources perhaps that is a subject which would be more productive.
2. A hand crafted architectural element such as a three(3) century old wood door is certainly a vast improvement over anything a residential contractor is going to install.
3. Within a historic district, as this is, the architectural element in question seems infinitely more appropriate than something made from glass or tin. As a student of architecture and a follower of the organic architecture of F.L. Wright's use of natural elements, I find this issue absurdly disgusting.

Please permit Mike and Kim Wasserman to use their family's door in their new home, the community will be better for it.

Thank You,
Capt. Jim Fuller
[REDACTED]
Los Gatos, CA
[REDACTED]

From: Steve McGrath [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 12:06 AM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's door

EXTERNAL SENDER

To Whom it may concern

We live at [REDACTED], directly adjacent to the Wasserman's new home. We have been residents of Los Gatos for over 12 years and, along with every resident on W. Main Street, we are strongly in favor of the wooden door over the alternative generic glass door.

We respectfully voice our opinion in support of allowing the Wassermans to use their historic wooden door.

Regards

Steve & Linda McGrath
YogaSource Los Gatos | One Yoga

[REDACTED]

From: TIM PERRY [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 7:52 AM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's historic wooden door

EXTERNAL SENDER

Planning Commission,

We prefer the Wasserman's historic wooden door to the aluminum clad glass door on the plans for his home on Main Street.

We understand, that like any piece of art, some individuals will appreciate the aesthetic properties of that door more than others.

Some prefer the contemporary over the classical or the shiny-new over the aged historical.

We believe that all the bits and pieces and the "one of a kind" items found on homes around our town are exactly what add to the history, uniqueness and character of Los Gatos.

We respectfully ask that you please approve the Wasserman's historic wooden door.

Patti and Tim Perry

[REDACTED]

Los Gatos

From: Ken Rodrigues [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 9:09 AM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Wasserman's Front Entry Door

EXTERNAL SENDER

Dear members of the Town of Los Gatos Planning Commission,

I am writing this email to ask your support of Kim and Mike Wasserman's request to install a "Historic" hand carved wood door on their new home on Main Street

I have lived in this beautiful neighborhood for 40 years and love its rich character and history. The homes are lovely and are very eclectic in their design and detailing. This is one of the strong character defining elements of the neighborhood's fabric. I recently viewed the door and learned of its unique history and believe it is a good design element to add to their new home. This wood carved door is historic in character, age and material making it a good choice for a new home located in a neighborhood of older historical homes.

A front door welcomes family, visitors and neighbors. This wood door, with its aged history and amazing story will become a historical design feature on the Wasserman's new home. Isn't this exactly why Los Gatos has a historical downtown neighborhood district-to encourage new homes to take on a historical character of their own? Wouldn't it be the best green solution to re-use a beautifully hand carved wood door of this age on a new home in the district?

As an architect who has designed many projects in Los Gatos I care deeply for the rich architectural history of the town and commend the planning commission for its successful past efforts to protect this history.

Please approve the Wasserman's request to use this unique door on their new home being built on Main Street.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request,

Kenneth Rodrigues FAIA
Kenneth Rodrigues & Partners
Architects and Planners

From: bettycolwell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 10:53 AM
To: Planning <Planning@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Washerman's Door

EXTERNAL SENDER

Planning Commission.

Please grant the Wassermans' appeal to use their historic hand carved door instead of the aluminum clad glass door. Privacy and safety should also be taken into consideration.

Thank you.

Betty Colwell