



Community Development
Department

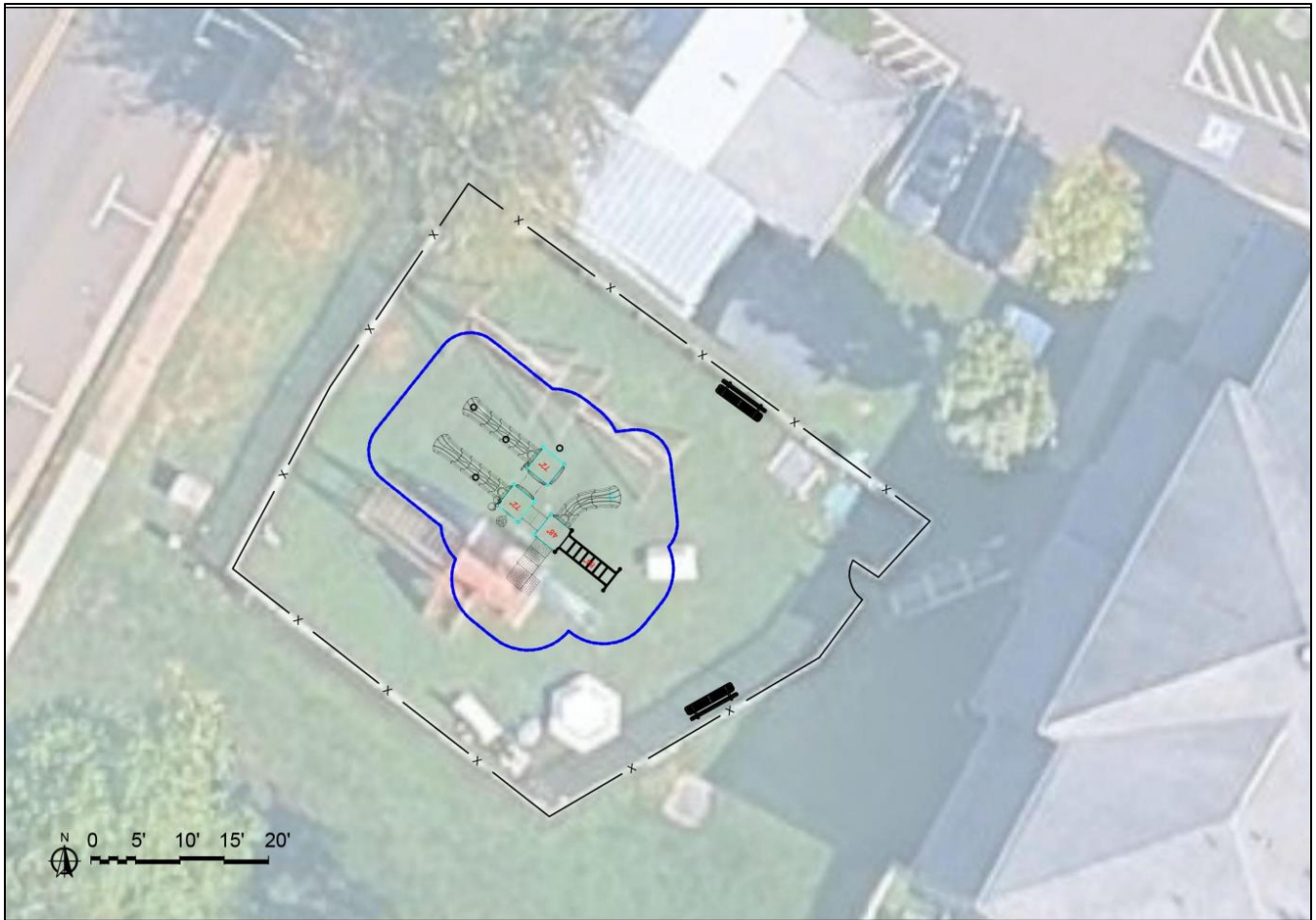
STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date:	September 24, 2026
Agenda Title:	COA 26-41 95 Keith Street
Requested Action:	New 4' metal safety fence around the playground
Department / Agency Lead:	Community Development
Staff Lead:	Whitney Burgess, Preservation Planner

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The applicant, Fauquier Family Shelter Services, is requesting to install a 4' tall black metal fence around their playground area to ensure child safety. This new fence would replace a preexisting fence that was removed for recent playground landscaping and equipment upgrades. The fence will round out the overall amenity improvement project. Although the proposed fence design meets Historic District Guidelines, the scale is just over the maximum height allowed for Admin Approval by Staff (3.5'), so ARB review is required.





BACKGROUND

Fauquier Family Shelter Services, located at 85-95 Keith Street, is situated on a moderately-sized rectangular lot on the southeast side of Keith Street. The circa 1909 house is minimally set back from the road and features a very small grass lawn in the front. An asphalt driveway immediately adjacent to the northeast of the dwelling provides access to the rear of the property and a large, modern secondary dwelling to the east. A playground area stretches between the adjacent road, original house, and secondary building. The property has served as a family shelter facility since at least 1999.



Example Fencing

DESIGN GUIDELINE CONSIDERATIONS

Historic District Guideline	Page No.	Analysis
2. SITE DESIGN		
B. Guidelines for Fences & Walls		
2. New fences should not exceed six feet in height, or the maximum allowed by the zoning district regulations	3.8	
3. Design fencing and gates for visual interest in addition to function; choose appropriate materials such as stone, brick, cast stone, rusticated concrete block, cast cement, wood, iron, steel, or metal wire	3.8	
4. For wooden stockade fences, avoid simplicity. Design with architectural details such as capped posts, pointed or shaped boards, varied board heights, or scalloped sections, for example. The rails should face the interior lot. Pressure treated lumber is acceptable but stained or painted is recommended.	3.8	
Best Practices		

Historic District Guideline	Page No.	Analysis
For fences and walls between properties, permission and approval of the adjoining owner should accompany the Architectural Review Board application for review consideration	3.8	

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the request to construct new metal fencing for child safety around the existing playground area should be approved with the following conditions:

1. All necessary permits are acquired; and
2. Fence height cannot exceed 6 ft tall, per Zoning Ordinance 2-19.1

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment A- Photos and Plans
2. Attachment B- Draft Motion

ATTACHMENTS

3.