

Objection to Demolition - Fwd: Planning Commission Meeting Agenda for January 7th

1 message

Jennifer Chapman < jenchapman415@gmail.com>

Tue, Jan 7, 2020 at 8:39 AM

January 7, 2020

To: Placerville Planning Commission Fr: Jennifer Chapman - 2701 Clay Street

Re: Opposition to Demolition of House at 3095 Cedar Ravine

Dear Planning Commission,

I object to the demolition of the house at 3095 Cedar Ravine without further environmental review for the following reasons:

- 1. This house is located in a residential historic district associated with other residential historic districts as well as the downtown Main Street historic district. When viewed as a group, all of these districts are contiguous.
- 2. The downtown Main Street historic district that is adjacent to the Cedar Ravine district has been assumed to be eligible for the state and national registers of historic places in the environmental analysis for the Clay Street Bridge Project. Preliminary work by a historian / consultant working for Friends of Historic Hangtown supports this assumption and provides a foundation for further study.
- 3. The building date of 1939 is the same as the historic Post Office at 515 Main Street built in 1939
- 4. The Blair family's ties to the property and the building at 3095 Cedar Ravine are a significant association.
- 5. The historic WPA mural in the historic 1939 post office at 515 Main Street ("Forest Genetics" by Tom Lewis) commemorates the history of logging in the Placerville area; and logging is also associated with the Blair family. See mural information at this link: https://livingnewdeal.org/projects/el-dorado-das-office-mural-placerville-ca/
- 6. Placerville's residential historic districts and the downtown Main Street historic district are interconnected and represent a dynamic period of local, state, and national history which include significant events from the Discovery of Gold in 1848 until the end of non-essential gold mining in 1942 by order of the War Production Board under President Franklin D. Roosevelt.
- 7. The intersection of Cedar Ravine and Main Street is where the Druid Monument was placed because of the importance of the Cedar Ravine corridor and the Lincoln Highway.
- 8. The Druid Monument has been determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places by the consultants working for the City and Caltrans on the Clay Street Bridge project.

Furthermore, it is unappropriate to build multi-family housing instead of a single family home this location. However, a single family home -- may be able to accommodate more than one family if designed appropriately. The options of restoration and/or rebuilding while maintaining historic character need to be studied further.

In my opinion, to categorically exempt this project from further environmental review would be a violation of CEQA. It is also a matter of ethics and conscience.

The City should assist the applicant with finding a solution for this property that is compatible with preservation of historic resources, feeling and character.

Please share this letter with all members of the Planning Commission before tonight's meeting.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Chapman 2701 Clay Street Placerville CA 95667

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Lynne Hunter < lhunter@cityofplacerville.org>

Date: Fri, Jan 3, 2020 at 1:51 PM

Subject: Planning Commission Meeting Agenda for January 7th

To:

Good Afternoon

I have attached the agenda for the January 7th Planning Commission meeting that will take place at Town Hall (549 Main Street) at 6:00 pm.

Lynne

Lynne M. Hunter, Administrative Secretary

City of Placerville Development Services Department

Planning 530.642.5252 - Building 530.642.5240 - Code Enforcement 530.642-5579 - fx. 530.295.2510

City Website: www.CityofPlacerville.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Jennifer Chapman 415-419-4846

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