

**STAFF REPORT**  
**for**  
**JUNE 5, 2019 HRC MEETING**

**Case #:** COA2019-053  
**Staff:** Heather M. Bratland

**Applicant:** Victoria Roemer  
**Owner:** Victoria Roemer

**LOCATION**

District: West End Historic Overlay District #381  
Street: 821 West End Boulevard  
Building: Bess Gray Plumly House  
Local Historic  
Landmark#: n/a

**REQUEST(S)**

- Installation of a 6'-high, trellis fence

**APPLICABLE SECTIONS OF DESIGN REVIEW GUIDELINES**

*West End Historic Overlay District Design Review Guidelines*  
**(Please refer to the applicable sections of the *Guidelines*, as detailed in the staff comments.)**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION/ELEMENTS**

*Please refer to the information provided with the application.*

**STAFF COMMENTS**

The applicant requests permission to install a 6'-high, custom-built trellis fence at the rear yard of her corner lot. Because it would be installed adjacent to Forsyth Street, the fence would be located in an area of high visibility. The fence would be installed approximately 3' inside of the existing stone retaining wall that supports the rear yard. A 32' section of fence separated into panels supported by posts would run along Forsyth Street, with the remaining two sections set perpendicular to the street, running back toward the house. The fence panels would be constructed of cedar in a vertical-and-horizontal grid pattern and stained dark green.

**STAFF FINDINGS**

Commission staff finds that the work is incongruous with the character of the West End Historic Overlay District because:

- 1) The proposed 6' fence is not consistent with the height of traditional fences in areas of high visibility in the West End. It is not appropriate to introduce fences taller than 42" in areas of high visibility. (*New Fences in Highly Visible Areas from Street Level*, West End Guideline 6)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Based on the preceding findings, staff recommends that the Commission deny COA2019-053 at the Bess Gray Plumly House, located at 821 West End Boulevard within the West End Historic Overlay District (PIN# 6825-65-9654.00). If the Commission approves COA2019-053, staff recommends the following conditions:

- 1) The fence shall be constructed with the structural side facing inward, toward the yard;

- 2) There shall be no commercial, contractor, or manufacturer markings or advertising on any part of the fencing;
- 3) The applicant shall receive, prior to commencement of the work, all other required permits or permissions from governmental agencies;
- 4) Commission staff shall review and approve any revisions or deviations to any portion of the as-submitted work, that qualifies as a minor work, prior to commencement of that portion of the project; and
- 5) The applicant shall submit the Certificate of Appropriateness Request for Certification of Completed Work form and photo documentation of the completed project to HRC staff within ten (10) days of its completion.