

April 5, 2022  
City Council Meeting  
Comment

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**L1 – 406 S Julian St**

***COMMENT ONLY***

**Marilyn Schweitzer –**

1) Please concur with staff and approve Option B which does not grant the variance for the wrap-around porch along Porter Avenue. There is simply no hardship. A wrap-around porch is a design preference, not a code requirement. The properties to the north, east, and south are all zoned R1A which have 30' corner setbacks, not 15'. Only the property to the west is zoned R1B. The city, not the petitioner, owns the ROW and its width should have no bearing on the rationale. A porch less than 11' from the public sidewalk is not compatible for this zoning or the neighborhood character.

2) I also take exception to the petitioner's proposal to pay cash in lieu of installing a sidewalk at the time of development and the suggestion that the sidewalk be built close to the roadway. Delaying installation affects the public's safety. Carriage walks and sidewalks with narrow parkways are more difficult to maintain (e.g. snowplows pile the snow on them), are not as safe, and place limitations on parkway trees. The ROW is for public use, not for the private benefit of the property owner. The sidewalk should be installed as close to the property line as possible as is the city's current practice. This is typically 1'.