



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

25 West Fourth Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Telephone: 651-266-6700
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June 22, 2011

Kris Flaten
5008 90th Street E.
Rochester, MN 55057

Re: 469 Dayton Avenue, Hill Historic District

Dear Ms. Flaten:

Thank you for taking the time to meet me yesterday at 469 Dayton Avenue to discuss the Heritage Preservation Design Review process and to inspect the front steps. This letter is in response to your questions about installing a handrail at the property. The Hill Historic District Guidelines, in Chapter 74 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code, state:

Sec. 74.64.(f)(1) Porches and Exterior Architectural Features:

Porches and steps which are appropriate to the building and its development should be retained. Porches and additions reflecting later styles of architecture are often important to the building's historical integrity and, whenever possible, should be retained. Porches and steps removed from the building should be reconstructed, using photographic documentation and historical research, to be compatible in design and detail with the period and style of the building. In replacing porch railings, it is important to maintain the original spacing, section and profile of the balustrades.

The residence at 469 Dayton Avenue was constructed in 1910 and is categorized as contributing to the character of the Hill Historic District. Any work to the exterior of the property will require review by the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) and/or HPC staff.

The front steps are constructed of large stone slabs, the porch floor is covered in large, square, stone tiles and the columns are of a brick that matches the house. Historically there was not a handrail at the steps, however the installation of one has been ordered by the Fire Inspector. The installation of a handrail should have minimal visual and physical impacts to the property. As we discussed, the installation of a black, metal pipe-rail or handrail, similar to that at 487 Dayton Avenue, with little or no attachment in the stone treads would be an appropriate

solution. Please fill out and submit a Heritage Preservation Design Review application along with a drawing or photo of the proposed handrail, and include details about where and how it will be attached to the front porch. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions at (651) 266-6715.

Sincerely,

Christine Boulware

Christine Boulware
Historic Preservation Planner

Encl

cc: Patricia Whitney, Attorney
Marcia Moermond. Legislative Hearing Officer
Lisa Martin, Fire Inspector
File