

January 2, 2017

Dear MV Commission,

I am writing in enthusiastic support of Mr. Matt Viaggio's plan to demolish the vacant building on Masonic Avenue. The empty property stands directly across the street from my home on 9 Masonic Avenue.

As a resident, I very much support Mr. Viaggio's plan to tear down this dilapidated structure and place an attractive plaque memorializing the heritage value of this site.

Since I purchased my property on Masonic Avenue, I have been looking forward to my neighborhood retaining and enhancing its original character and identity as part of the "Arts District" in Oak Bluffs, and I look forward to being a part of the efforts to upgrade and enhance the neighborhood. I'm experienced in working on Cultural Districts, most notably in the Fenway neighborhood of Boston, and have observed firsthand the civic and economic value arts district identities can contribute to neighborhoods. Aesthetic upgrades and enhancements are a very good first step.

For my small initial contribution in 2017, I have engaged and am working with a talented landscaper and will be landscaping the front of my property, and will be hiring a local Oak Bluffs planting company to implement these plans.

I believe most, if not all, of the surrounding neighbors on Masonic Avenue support Mr. Viaggio's short and long range plans to demolish the existing structure and then to build sensitively on this property. He has shown his commitment to the neighborhood by doing an outstanding job in keeping the grounds of the property well maintained with frequent lawn mowing and the planting and care of beautiful wildflowers that enhance our neighborhood. Unfortunately, the existing building on the property is run down does not assist these efforts, and in my opinion should be torn down as it may soon pose a rodent, skunk, or general public health and public safety issue—if it has not done so already. It is very much a vacant eyesore in what is increasingly becoming a charming, vibrant centrally located residential neighborhood in Oak Bluffs.

As I live directly across the street from the vacant building, I wholly support Mr. Viaggio's plans to remove this large vacant and unsightly structure that currently adds nothing to the neighborhood, and most likely will invite various problems in the near future.

I urge you to consider my thoughts and the thoughts of our neighbors who support Mr. Viaggio's thoughtfully considered plan and his apparent strong commitment to our beloved neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Kelly Brilliant, Resident
9 Masonic Avenue, Oak Bluffs