

# Re: Shearer Cottage Expansion - 4 Morgan Ave. - Preliminary Site Visit

Peter Gearhart <[peter@sullivanassociatesarchitects.com](mailto:peter@sullivanassociatesarchitects.com)>

Tue 11/16/2021 12:11 PM

To: Oak Bluffs Fire Chief <[firechief@oakbluffsma.gov](mailto:firechief@oakbluffsma.gov)>;

Cc: Eric Van Allen <[ericpopevanallen1@gmail.com](mailto:ericpopevanallen1@gmail.com)>; Carma Van Allen <[carmavanallen@gmail.com](mailto:carmavanallen@gmail.com)>; Chuck Sullivan <[chuck@sullivanassociatesarchitects.com](mailto:chuck@sullivanassociatesarchitects.com)>; Alex Elvin <[elvin@mvcommission.org](mailto:elvin@mvcommission.org)>; Steve Foster <[deputyfirechief@oakbluffsma.gov](mailto:deputyfirechief@oakbluffsma.gov)>;

Chief Wirtz,

Nice to meet you, and Deputy Chief Foster, and thank you for the prompt response. We appreciate your thoughtful analysis of the site and your positive approach in discussing our mutual concerns. It is a terrific project, and very important to the future of this significant historic site.

We will wait to hear how the apparatus do in accessing the site, but will incorporate your other thoughts into our planning and approval drawings and presentations. We will begin work with the fire protection engineer, and the Water District, on the flow requirements and water availability at the site and let you know the results.

We look forward to working with you on the project.

Regards,

On Tue, Nov 16, 2021 at 11:06 AM Oak Bluffs Fire Chief <[firechief@oakbluffsma.gov](mailto:firechief@oakbluffsma.gov)> wrote:

Mr. Gearhart,

It was great to meet with you today at the cottage. It looks like a beautiful project.

As we discussed, there are a few issues that will need to be addressed in the coming months.

Overhanging limbs, brush and trees that restrict the road width and height for Emergency Vehicle access. We will bring our first due engine into the neighborhood before the end of the first week of December. I will let you know how it goes. I do not have any major concerns currently.

I will need to know the municipal water supply calculations for fire extinguishment to be sure the water system can handle the size and scope of the proposed project. The fire protection engineer can supply that data.

During the planning phase I will be consulted on and approve the placement of the FDC for the sprinkler system.

Currently these are the few concerns with this project. None of these should inhibit your ability to move forward with the MVC.

Thank you



*Chief Nelson Wirtz*

*6 Firehouse Lane*

*Oak Bluffs MA, 02557*

*(508) 693-5380*

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**From:** Peter Gearhart <[peter@sullivanassociatesarchitects.com](mailto:peter@sullivanassociatesarchitects.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 08, 2021 3:06 PM  
**To:** Oak Bluffs Fire Chief <[firechief@oakbluffsma.gov](mailto:firechief@oakbluffsma.gov)>  
**Cc:** Steve Foster <[deputyfirechief@oakbluffsma.gov](mailto:deputyfirechief@oakbluffsma.gov)>  
**Subject:** Shearer Cottage Expansion - 4 Morgan Ave. - Preliminary Site Visit

Chief Wirtz,

I am following up on an email that I sent last week about scheduling a site visit for Shearer Cottage.

We have a project to expand Shearer Cottage (plans attached) and I would like to schedule a site visit with you, or someone else from the FD, to review fire apparatus access, and related fire fighting requirements, at the site. This is a preliminary site walk to determine what, if any, fire department access problems should be addressed during the planning of the project. The project is currently in approval before the MVC, with our next discussion with them this Friday (11/12), so anytime from Tuesday to Thursday of this week (11/9 to 11/11) would work to get the MVC some information. Does conducting a site visit in the next few days work for you? If so, let me know when and we'll get it scheduled. If needed, my cell is 617-943-4051.

Regards,

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**Peter Gearhart**

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