
LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT: Dilworth

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 2021 Dilworth Road West

SUMMARY OF REQUEST: Vinyl fence

APPLICANT/OWNER: Erin Johnson

Details of Proposed Request

Existing Context

The existing structure is a Contributing Structure listed in the Dilworth National Register National Register of Historic Places constructed in 1927.

Proposal

The applicant is requesting the construction of a vinyl fence along the side and rear yard. The applicant has submitted examples on the appearance of the fence.

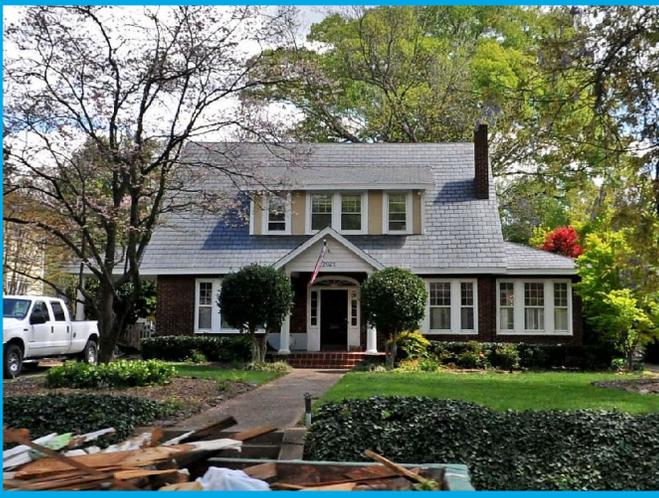
Policy & Design Guidelines – Fences, page 56

The Historic District Commission considers fencing to be a major element in the character of a Local Historic District because of its often strong visual impact. Consequently, all fencing within a Local Historic District will require a Certificate of Appropriateness. Fences that meet these guidelines are eligible for administrative approval.

1. Front yard or front setback fencing is restricted to low picket style fencing. On such fences, the height of the support posts should not exceed thirty-six inches above grade, and the height of the pickets should not exceed thirty inches. All pickets must be separated by a visible spacing pattern. All front yard fencing on residential uses must enclose three sides of the front yard. Front yard privacy fences are not allowed.
2. Fencing should not obscure the front elevation of the primary structure on a property. Also, fencing should not substantially obscure side elevations of the primary structure.
3. Fencing visible from any public street must be judged appropriate to the district. It must have texture resulting from an interplay of light and dark materials or solids and voids. Solid privacy fences that would be substantially visible from the street are not allowed.
4. The structural members of any fence must face inward to the property being fenced. The HDC will consider approving fences where the structural members are an integral part of a overall design, and where both sides of the proposed fence are identical.
5. Wooden fences must be painted or stained in an appropriate fashion.
6. No fencing may be over six feet in height, as measured from the outside at grade.
7. Fencing materials and details must be appropriate to the architectural style of the building they enclose. Proper fencing for a Victorian home can differ substantially from that appropriate to a Craftsman bungalow.
8. Fencing must avoid any style that presents a long unbroken expanse to adjacent properties or to public thoroughways.
- 9 All sides must be appropriately finished.
10. On corner lots on residential streets, privacy fences in rear yards must be screened with appropriate landscaping materials.

Staff Analysis - The Commission shall determine if an exception should be approved for vinyl fencing material.

Charlotte Historic District Commission Case 2017-365
HISTORIC DISTRICT: DILWORTH
FENCE







Detailed Project Description

Replacing the current 4' left and 6' back rear chain link fence (not meeting CHD requirements) and adding where there currently is no fence at the right side rear (to fully enclose the rear yard) a white, eco-friendly/'green', vinyl, tongue and groove, commercial-grade, with an interplay of solids and voids (looks like wood, not cheap vinyl from a big box store) 6' fence on left, right and back rear of property line, as marked on the current site plan and survey. This fence will enclose the previously approved pool to meet requirements and safety standards.

Fence Guidelines (page 10 of the Historical District Commission Criteria for Project Review RE: fencing):

1. Fencing cannot be a style that presents a long unbroken expanse – **MEETS** – the fence is broken every 8' with posts and contains decorative lattice work at the top; the fence is identical on both sides.
2. Solid privacy fences that would be substantially visible from the street are not allowed (N/A) – **MEETS** – the fence will not be substantially visible from the street, see photos submitted.
3. Front yard or front setback fencing is restricted to low picket style fencing up to 36" in height (N/A) – **MEETS** – the new fence will not be in the front yard or front setback.
4. Maximum height for fencing in the side and rear yard is 6 ft. – **MEETS**, the fence is 6' tall.
5. Exceptions to fence design requires full Commission Review – **AN EXCEPTION IS NOT BEING REQUESTED**; however, we were informed that staff cannot approve vinyl fence material even though there is no restriction for such use.

Charlotte Historic District Commission Policy & Guidelines RE: Fences, pages 56-57

The proposed fence meets all of the applicable CHDC Policies and Guidelines, as follows (only applicable guidelines are addressed below):

1. The fence will not be in the front of the house and will not substantially obscure the side elevations of the house in the rear.
2. The fence details are appropriate to the architectural style of the house.
3. The fence is a white, tongue and groove fence with texture resulting from an interplay of solids and voids at the top; it is not a solid privacy fence. The structural members are every 8' and are integral to the overall fence design; both sides of the fence are identical and all sides are finished.
4. The fence will not be over six feet in height, as measured from the outside at grade.
5. The fence materials are a green product (unlike wood) that looks like wood and holds up better than wood (see below).
6. See picture of approved vs. proposed fence on following page.

Acceptable fence from page 57:



- *Horizontal / vertical latticework, and panels butt joined to sturdy uprights create a softened privacy fence.*

Proposed Fence



Superior Quality Materials

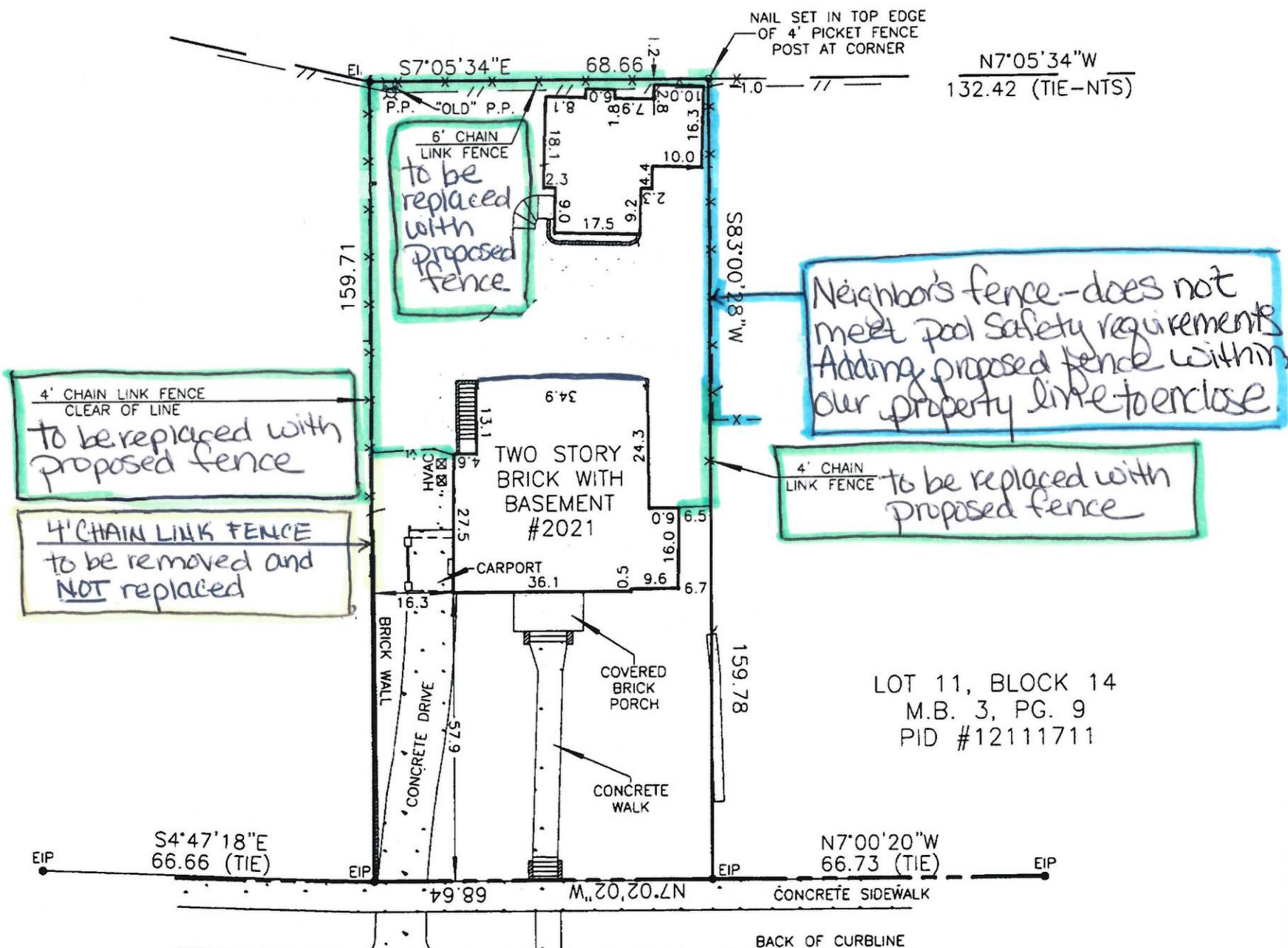
We would like to replace the chain link fence (which does not seem to meet HDC requirements) with a commercial grade vinyl fence in lieu of wood due to the superior materials of the vinyl materials – see below.

- *Excellent Wind Rating*
 - Can withstand constant hurricane force winds up to 110 mph and 130 mph gusts. Certified to hurricane requirements. This will prevent ‘leaning’ of the fence, which happens to wood fences over time
- *Excellent Sound Barrier*
 - Blocks 98% of direct sound with a sound transmission class rating of 26. This will add to the quiet atmosphere of the neighborhood
- *Debris Resistant & Maintenance free*
 - Easily remove debris using a high-powered pressure washer; it will never need painting or staining; nor will it warp, fade or crack. This improved durability will maintain the ‘new’ look longer while wooden fences mold, rot, and discolor over time (there are numerous fences throughout the neighborhood that look like this)
- *A Green Product*
 - Ashland fence panels are approved as a “Green Product” and used for many projects requiring the use of eco-friendly building materials. Wood is not a green material; the CHD should permit the use of green materials by owners if they

meet the style/architectural guidelines and are not inferior products, which this is not

Finally, there is no prohibition of vinyl fencing in any CHD guideline or policy. In addition, there is a white, vinyl fence that meets all of the CHD requirements around the corner from our house, within the Historic District.

If you would like any additional information, please ask.



2021
 DILWORTH ROAD WEST
 SITE PLAN

LOT 11, BLOCK 14
 M.B. 3, PG. 9
 PID #12111711







A VINYL FENCE & DECK WHOLESALER

Technical Specifications - Rainier Privacy Fence With Lattice

6' Tall x 8' or 6' Wide Sections

