



Architectural Review Board

Staff Report (ID # 11432)

Report Type:	Subcommittee Items	Meeting Date: 7/2/2020
Summary Title:	620 Emerson Street: Subcommittee Review of Details for Metal Gates/Grates	
Title:	620 Emerson Street (19PLN-0326): Subcommittee Review of Approved Project That was Conditioned to Return with Details on the Design, Pattern, and Material Samples for the Bronze Metal Gates and Grate Proposed Along the Front Façade. Environmental Assessment: Exempt from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per Guideline Section 15303 (New Construction). Zoning District: CD-C(GF)(P) (Downtown Commercial). For More Information Contact the Project Planner Samuel Gutierrez at samuel.gutierrez@cityofpaloalto.org .	
From:	Jonathan Lait	

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Architectural Review Board (ARB) Subcommittee take one of the following actions:

1. Discuss and recommend that the Director find the submittal meets Condition of Approval #5; or
2. Provide additional direction to the applicant and continue the item.

Background

On May 4, 2020, the Director of Planning & Development Services approved the subject project. At the ARB's recommendation, staff imposed a condition that required review of certain project elements by the ARB subcommittee. Links to the April 16, 2020 staff report¹, minutes² and

¹ Staff Report: <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/76188>

² Minutes: <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/76706>

video³ are provided. The items for subcommittee review and the applicant's response to the ARB's comments are provided below.

Discussion/Analysis

Condition of Approval #5

Prior to the issuance of building permits, the applicant shall return to the ARB subcommittee for approval of the following items, to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning & Development Services:

- a. A detailed design/pattern, and material samples, shall be provided for the bronze metal gates and grate proposed along the front façade.

Applicant's Response:

The applicant has developed drawings and images to provide greater detail for the decorative bronze screen at the facade of 620 Emerson Street. Page 1 shows the approved overall view of the facade. Page 2 shows a rendering taken from the sidewalk that displays the depth and rhythm of the bronze screen. The planting images have been faded so the screen can more clearly be seen in the diagrammatic view. Page 3 is a drawing (A5.13) that offers more information on the layout and dimensions of the screen. Page 4 shows images of the proposed oil-rubbed bronze material. Included in the plan set are photographs of the bronze to show the materials in lieu of being physically present.

Staff Analysis:

With the additional details provided staff believes the design of the gates/grate is consistent with the quality and overall design of the approved project. The subcommittee is encouraged to affirm the submittal meet Approval Condition #5 and provide such a recommendation to the Director. Otherwise, the subcommittee should provide direction to staff and the applicant if the submittal requires further refinement.

Report Author & Contact Information

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ARB⁴ Liaison & Contact Information

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Attachments:

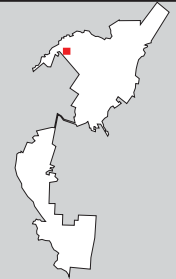
- Attachment A: Location Map (PDF)
- Attachment B: Applicant Response Memo (PDF)
- Attachment C: Project Plans (DOCX)

³ Video: <https://midpenmedia.org/architectural-review-board-74-4162020/>

⁴ Emails may be sent directly to the ARB using the following address: arb@cityofpaloalto.org

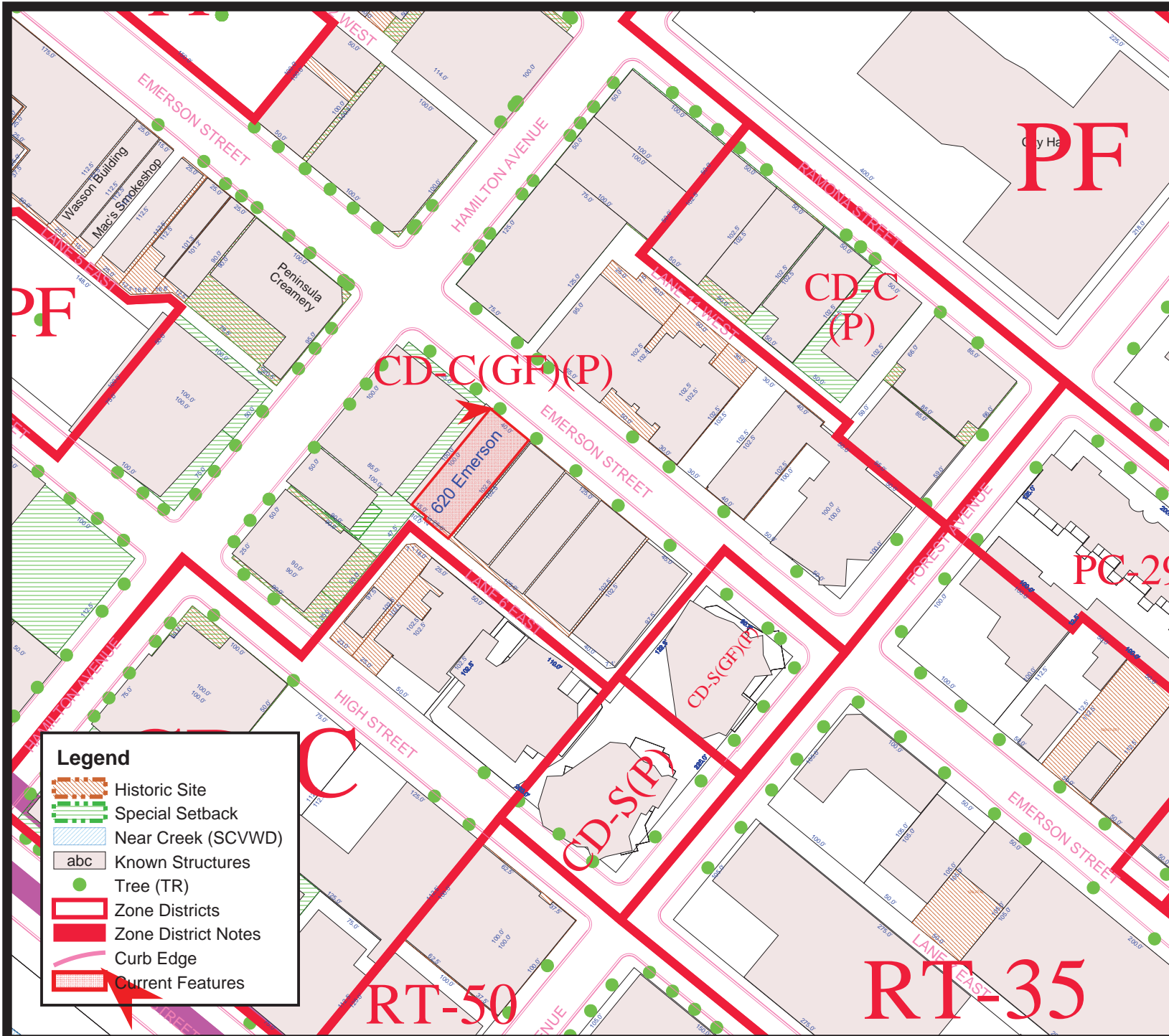


The City of Palo Alto



620 Emerson Street

This map is a product of the City of Palo Alto GIS



Legend

- Historic Site
- Special Setback
- Near Creek (SCVWD)
- Known Structures
- Tree (TR)
- Zone Districts
- Zone District Notes
- Curb Edge
- Current Features

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MEMORANDUM

DATE June 16th, 2020

TO City of Palo Alto – Architectural Review Board

FROM Kyle Engoian – Montalba Architects, Inc.

PROJECT NOBU GARDEN RESTAURANT – 620 EMERSON STREET, PALO ALTO, CA 94301

RE **ARB SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING FOR APPROVED PROJECT (19PLN-00326)**

NOTE Please see below for our team’s response to the ARB’s condition of approval.

Excerpt from Conditions of Approval / Planning Division:

5. Prior to the issuance of building permits, the applicant shall return to the ARB subcommittee for approval of the following items, to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning & Development Services:
 - a. A detailed design/pattern, and material samples, shall be provided for the bronze metal gates and grate proposed along the front facade.

Response from Montalba Architects, Inc.:

In response to this condition, our team has developed drawings and images to provide greater detail for the decorative bronze screen at the facade of 620 Emerson Street. Page 1 of the enclosed PDF introduces the project as it was presented during the ARB hearing, with an overall view of the facade. Page 2 shows a rendering taken from the sidewalk that displays the depth and rhythm of the bronze screen. During the hearing, board members noted that it was difficult to see the screen through the plantings, so we’ve faded them out to create a more clear, diagrammatic view. Page 3 is a drawing (A5.13) from our recently submitted Plan Check set which offers more information on the layout and dimensions of the screen. Page 4 shows images of oil-rubbed bronze samples. As previously discussed with Samuel Gutierrez, due to the meeting likely being conducted over video conference, we are including photographs of the bronze as the best way to show the materials in lieu of being physically present.

Thank you,
 Kyle Engoian
 Montalba Architects, Inc.

ENCL 2020.06.05 NOBU PA620G_ arb subcommittee presentation.pdf

Attachment C

Project Plans

During Shelter-in-Place plans are only available online.

Directions to review Project plans online:

1. Go to: bit.ly/PApendingprojects
2. Scroll to find “**620 Emerson**” and click the address link
3. On this project specific webpage you will find a link to the Project Plans and other important information

Direct Link to Project Webpage:

<https://bit.ly/620EMERSON19>