

Dear Honorable Board Members,

It has recently come to my attention that Mr. Colin Maxwell, the property owner of 45270 Albion Street has filed an appeal of a pending MHRB permit that is still currently under review. As a resident of Mendocino and an owner of a historic home built in 1879 it concerns me greatly that the normal administrative process of historical review by the MHRB is being appealed prior to the MHRB having an opportunity to receive materials from the applicant needed to render an informed final decision. Clearly, the MHRB administrative review process should be allowed to come to completion before the BOS considers it a final MHRB decision subject to appeal. The BOS taking any action at this point would short circuit the MHRB historical and public review process.

I firmly believe that disregarding the MHRB review process threatens the integrity of the Mendocino historical district and the high standard of historical preservation that we and visitors from around the world have come to appreciate. In my humble opinion it also more than likely violates the standard administrative review process and could be subject to successful legal challenge.

For the sake of our cherished district, please return the matter back to the MHRB for final review. At the very least this would enable both the MHRB and BOS (if appealed) to see a more complete and factual assessment of the project. Finally, I also hope that in the meantime, County Staff will not grant building permits that potentially violate MHRB guidelines while the matter is still under review.

Thank You For Your Consideration,

John Cornacchia