

February 3, 2021  
Design Review Committee Meeting  
Public Comments

Public Comments

Item 4.1

DRC No. 4933-17

Northern Gateway Commercial Center



OLD TOWNE | PRESERVATION  
ASSOCIATION

*Preserving California's largest Historic District.*

To: City of Orange Design Review Committee  
Mary Anne Skopanich, Chairperson  
Carol Fox, Vice Chairperson  
Anne McDermott, Committee Member  
Robert Imboden, Committee Member  
Tim McCormack Committee Member

Address: 300 East Chapman Avenue Orange, CA 92866

From: Old Towne Preservation Association (OTPA)

Re: Design Review Committee No. 493-17 Northern Gateway Center 887 N. Glassell St.

Design Review Committee Members,

OTPA has reviewed the above-mentioned project and collectively have made the decision to only provide comments in regard to the relocation of the Historic Gas Station located on 305 S. Main St. to the above referenced property address.

The Cultural Resources Assessment (CRA) submitted by LSA leaves interpretation and questions the probability of the structures eligibility to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places Resource List (NRHPRL). The CRA notes the structure has been altered and therefore is not eligible; We disagree with this analysis. We believe the structure has not been altered beyond a point where it could be repaired and preserved therefore being eligible for listing on NRHPRL.

OTPA has concluded the best outcome for Preserving and Restoring the Historic Gas Station would be to proceed with the relocation of the structure to 887 N. Glassell St.

The ongoing property developments in the current surrounding area and probability the structure would most likely be demolished has aided in our conclusion.

Additionally, we recommend the relocation be approved since the proposed property was at one point used as a gas station, the proposed location is a corner lot, and the proposed lot is located on the South East corner of a major Arterial Intersection. These items are consistent with the structure's current location.

We would like for the applicant to consider these items:

1. The exterior stucco should be removed, and the wood siding should be repaired and retain the exterior finish
2. The orientation of the structure should match that of the current structure location as close as possible

We would strongly encourage the applicant to apply and retain a listing of the structure into the California Historic Places Resources List as soon as possible.

Furthermore, we request that the DRC consider adding a condition to the Project that the Applicant shall place the structure on the California Historic Places Resource List.

Thank you for considering the request of Old Towne Preservation Association's comments and requests.

On Behalf of the Old Towne Preservation Association Board of Directors,

  
Adam Feliz  
Preservation Chairman  
Old Towne Preservation Association  
[Feliz.adam@icloud.com](mailto:Feliz.adam@icloud.com)

**From:** Brett Rekola <brettrekola@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 7:26 PM  
**To:** DRCpubliccomment  
**Subject:** Gas Station

Hi,

As a civil and railroad engineer with 45 years of heavy civil experience we have overseen the historic documentation, demotion and or movement of historic structures including building, train stations, barns, bridges etc.

The owner can document and demo and get the permits or move it to another site.

The boards that have overseen the movement of these structures to another suitable site always come out ahead.

Main Street is a hodgepodge of poor zoning regulations. Let the guy move the building to a suitable site, maybe create a small temporary park like you have on Almond.

I live near Collins and Glassell and that will improve our neighborhood.

Brett Rekola, PE/PLS