PHDC Staff Report September 18, 2023

PROJECT REVIEW

1. CASE 23. 097, 72 MOORE STREET, House, c1895 (NORTH ELMWOOD)

1½-story; end-gable house with bay windows on front and side, bracketed entry hood and trim, shingles over clapboards. CONTRIBUTING

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Arrow indicates 72 Moore Street.



Arrow indicates project location, looking north.

Applicants/Owners: Alex Purdue & April Donahower, 72 Moore Street, Providence, RI 02907 Contractor: Alex Purdue – NEC Solar, 121 Broadcommon Rd, Bristol, RI 02809

Proposal: The scope of work proposed consists of Major Alterations and includes:
 the installation of 14 solar panels in two rows to the west slope of the gable-end root.

Issues: The following issues are relevant to this application:

- This is a new filing. This application was heard by the Commission at the April 25, 2022 meeting. At that meeting the Commission deadlocked on its vote, 4-4, the result of which is a denial. During the previous review the Commission had a discussion regarding the visibility of the proposed installation. The west slope of the grapher of the provide to the proposed installation. The west slope of the grapher of the provide the visibility of the proposed installation. The west slope of the grapher of the only viable place for the panels to be located. There was a discussion about reorganizing the panels installation. The west slope of the grapher of the only viable place for the panels to be located. There was a discussion about reorganizing the panels installation. The west slope of the tool is the only viable place for the panels to be located. There was a discussion about reorganizing the panels installation. The west slope of the tool of the tool (centered in the root field). The applicant agreed. There was discussion about reorganizing the panels the west slope of the root of the tool of the district's and properties, locating solar panels from the pright-of-way, and is considered a primary elevation. For the installation of solar panels in the considered in the tool of the district's and properties, locating solar panels on a sthe levation. For the historic streetscape. All other options should be thoroughly explored and ruled of on a substalling with the subject on the district's and properties, locating solar panels and ruled for installation of solar panels is required. Only installations, where the proposed solar of the installations of solar panels is required. Only installations, who were the proposed solar of the enditored in the considered appropriate. Solar tactoric structure escalation, for the installation of solar panel
- The applicant has submitted letters of support from the Providence Preservation Society & City Councilor Juan M. Pichardo (Ward 9); Governor Raimondo's Executive Order 20-01 ("Advancing a 100% renewable energy future for Rhode Island by 2030"); an excerpt from PPS's AIA Guide to Providence Architecture about properties in the North Elmwood Historic District; photos of the subject and abutting properties; photos of previously approved properties that the Commission has approved as well as two examples from Warren; and, Plans and specifications of the proposed solar system have been submitted.
- The modifications as proposed will be visible from the public rights-of-way; and,
- The modifications as proposed may meet Minor Alterations: Solar Energy Systems Guidelines, Section 2, in the following manner: Panel layout shall be sympathetic or appropriate to design and scale of building. Rectangular configurations are preferred, with ample setback from edge of roof, dormers, chimneys, etc. (2.A); Panels shall be installed parallel to the existing roof slope and matched as closely as possible to the roof plane (2.B); Panels shall be installed without destroying or replacing original or historic materials or significantly compromising or altering the building's structural integrity (2.C); Panels shall be compatible in color to existing roofing insofar as possible (2.D); Installation of panels shall be as inconspicuous as possible when viewed from public right-of-way (2.E); Installation shall be reversible. Panels shall be removed when no longer viable or functioning and roofing restored to pre-existing conditions (2.F).

Recommendations: The staff recommends the PHDC make the following findings of fact:

- a) 72 Moore Street is a structure of historical and architectural significance that contributes to the significance of the North Elmwood local historic district, a district having been recognised as a contributing structure to the Elmwood National Register Historic District;
- b) The modifications as proposed meets Minor Alterations: Solar Energy Systems Guidelines, Section 2, and the application is considered complete; and, () The work as proposed is in accord with PHDC Standards 8 & 9 as follows: 8) the work will be done so that it does not destroy the historic character of
- The work as proposed is in accord with PHDC Standards & & 9 as follows: 8) the work will be done so that it does not destroy the miscorte character of the property as they will not disturb any historic fabric and are reversible; and, 9) Whenever possible... alterations to structures shall be done in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the structure and the site will be unimpaired.

Staff recommends a motion be made stating that: The application is considered complete. X2 Moore Street is a structure of historical and architectural static recommends a motion be made stating that. The application is considered complete. X2 Moore Street is a structure of historical and architectura to the significance of the Worth Elmwood local historic district having been recognized as a contributing structure to the Structure to the Structure to the proposed alteration is appropriate having been recognized as a contributing structure to the significance that contributes to the proposed alteration grants Final Approval of the proposal as submitted as the proposed alteration is appropriate having determined that the proposed alteration does not destroy the historic character of the property or the district and are historically and architecturally compatible with the proposed alteration does not destroy the historic character of the property or the district and are historically and architecturally compatible with the proposed alteration does not destroy the historic character of the property or the district and are historically and architecturally compatible with the proposed alteration does not destroy the historic character of the property or the district and are historically and architecturally compatible with the proposed alteration does not destroic character of the property or the district and are historically and architecturally compatible with the proposed alteration does not destroic character of the alterations. Solar Energy Systems Guidelines, Section 2, is reversible and will not have an adverse effect on the proposed alteration and entitions will not adversely affect any historic materials and is reversible (Standards 8 & 9), and the recommendations in the staff report, with staff to review any additional required desing.

Juan M. Pichardo President Pro Tempore Councilor- Ward 9

PROMDENCE CITY HALL 25 DORRANCE STREET, ROOM 310 PROVIDENCE, RI 02903 OFFICE: 401-521-7477 WARD9@PROVIDENCERI.GOV



COMMITTEES

Finance Claims and Pending Suits Urban Redevelopment, Renewal, and Planning Rules

March 29, 2023

Providence Historic District Commission Joseph A. Doorley, Jr. Municipal Building Department of Planning & Development 444 Westminster Street, Suite 3A Providence, RI 02903-3215

Dear Commissioners,

As City Councilor for Providence Ward 9, I am honored to have the North and South Elmwood Historic Districts within my jurisdiction. I am grateful for the Commission's work in protecting and preserving these areas of historical and architectural value. I am writing to endorse the proposal to install two rows of black solar panels on the existing west slope of the house at 72 Moore Street. I have assessed this proposal and encourage you to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the following reasons:

• The proposed installation will make no permanent change to the structure and will not destroy or obscure historic materials or architectural features that characterize the property

. The panels will not be visible from the principal elevation on Moore Street

• The proposal conforms to the requirements of 2.A-F of the Solar Panel Guidelines by being sympathetic to the design and scale of the building, parallel to the existing roof slope, compatible with the color of the existing roofing, inconspicuous, and reversible

• The Commission has previously approved comparable solar panel installations at 26 Dexter Street, 51 Hammond Street, 48 Hammond Street, 118 Princeton Avenue, 120 Moore Street, and 71 Whitmarsh Street, among others

 The financial benefits of approving this proposal will include stimulating further restoration and preservation efforts by the current homeowners Historic Commissions in neighboring towns have approved similar proposals.

As this proposal comes before you, I would appreciate your consideration and encourage the use of the Providence Preservation Society's vision of "a vibrant and sustainable future where people and the economy thrive." I would also encourage the support of historic preservation through people-centered planning that would include economic prosperity among economically challenged people.

Please join me in support of this proposal to install two rows of black solar panels on the existing west slope of the house at 72 Moore Street, which will make no permanent change to the structure, honors the unique identity of the North Elmwood neighborhood, and improves the quality of life for residents of this neighborhood.

Respectfully Submitted,

Juan M. Pichardo President Pró Tempore Councilor — Ward 9

PROVIDENCE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

June 8, 2023

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> Advisors Oliver H.L. Bennett Arria C. Bilodeau Vincent J. Buonanno Malcolm G. Chace Jr. Sean O. Coffey J P Couture Maia Farish Linton A. "Jay" Fluck Vance Freymann Leslie A. Gardner Karen L. Jessup Kari N. Lang Sally E. Lapides James W. Litsey Christopher J. Marsella Marta V. Martinez Liz Rollins Mauran Patricia Moran William J. Penn H. LeBaron Preston Clifford M. Renshaw Carla Ricci Lucie Searle Deming E. Sherman Melissa Trapp Mark Van Noppen

> > Executive Director Brent Runyon

Chairman Michael Marino Providence Historic District Commission *Via Email*

RE: Solar Panel Proposal for 72 Moore

Dear Commissioners:

The Providence Preservation Society is writing to endorse the solar panel proposal at 72 Moore Street presented in April 2022. PPS' mission supports both preservation and people-centered planning. We encourage residents and homeowners to engage with and update their historic properties in nondetrimental manners, and mitigating the effects of climate change is of utmost concern. Upon reviewing the application for this proposal, we have observed that:

1. The proposal will not make any irreversible changes to the historic structure.

2. The shade report demonstrates that this is the only viable location for installation on the property.

3. The applicant has demonstrated a desire to accommodate the panels in an organized manner to mitigate negative visual impacts on the district.

4. Adding solar panels meets the City's Sustainability Plan's goals on Energy Use, which highlights promoting and incentivizing energy reduction initiatives. HDC's standards for solar panels strive to minimize detrimental impacts on historic districts. This proposal meets the goals of both documents.

People-centered preservation and planning allow for residents of historic neighborhoods to continue living, adapting, and enjoying their homes. PPS encourages the Commission to consider the larger positive economic, social, and environmental impacts of this proposal alongside the physical character and identity of the Elmwood neighborhood.

Best regards,

liana fogetto

Adriana Hazelton Advocacy Manager cc: Brent Runyon, File



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

10: 52

Gina M. Raimondo Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER

20-01

January 17, 2020

ADVANCING A 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY FUTURE FOR RHODE ISLAND BY 2030

WHEREAS, Rhode Island and the world face significant environmental, economic, energy, and public health challenges from the impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island is committed to mitigating economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions and their effect on climate change, while spurring new and innovative opportunities for investment and job growth throughout the state's clean energy economy; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island's clean energy sector has seen a 74% increase in jobs since 2014, demonstrating that protecting against climate change and strengthening our economy are complementary goals; and

WHEREAS, the Resilient Rhode Island Act establishes targets for Rhode Island to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 10% below 1990 levels by 2020, to 45% below 1990 levels by 2035, and to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4), in its December 2016 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan, made clear that a business-as-usual approach to reducing economy-wide greenhouse gases is insufficient to meet Resilient Rhode Island Act emission reduction targets; and Executive Order 20-01 January 17, 2020 Page 2

WHEREAS, a clean, affordable, and reliable electric grid is paramount if Rhode Island is to effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions across *all* sectors of the economy, including heating and transportation; and ÷

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WHEREAS, the EC4 has also found that, to achieve state emissions reduction targets, the electric grid needs to be almost fully carbon-free; and

WHEREAS, a clean and affordable future electric grid will require a diverse combination of responsibly-developed resources to power our economy while maintaining reliability, including, but not limited to, offshore wind, solar, on-shore wind, and storage; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Rhode Island joined the United States Climate Alliance, a bipartisan coalition of governors committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement, now numbering 25 states in total; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island has taken significant steps to reduce carbon emissions in the electric sector, including, but not limited to, implementation of a Renewable Energy Standard, the Renewable Energy Growth Program, the Renewable Energy Fund, and creation of an Efficient Buildings Fund and Commercial PACE program at the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island is home to the first operational offshore wind farm in North America, located off the coast of Block Island; and

WHEREAS, in March 2017, I challenged the state to accelerate its clean energy portfolio ten-fold by December 2020, to 1,000 MW; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island has responded to that challenge and now counts more than 800 MW of renewables in its energy supply portfolio, and remains on-track to add more clean energy resources to its supply; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island is a founding member of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), the nation's first market-based cap-and-trade program to reduce emissions from the power sector; and

WHEREAS, through existing clean energy development, programs, and competitive market procurements, Rhode Island's electric supply will be more than one-third renewable by the middle of the next decade; and

WHEREAS, our clean energy future will rely not only on new renewable resources, but also on a lasting commitment to cost-effective energy efficiency, which is the cleanest Executive Order 20-01 January 17, 2020 Page 3

and most affordable means to reduce Rhode Island's overall consumption of electricity; and

WHEREAS, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) ranks Rhode Island third in the nation for its energy efficiency policies and programs; and

WHEREAS, in March 2017, I directed state agencies to develop a more dynamic regulatory framework to enable Rhode Island and its utilities to advance a cleaner, more affordable and reliable energy system for the 21st century and beyond; and

WHEREAS, this charge led to the formation of a Power Sector Transformation initiative that identified the importance of controlling long-term energy costs while building a more flexible grid to integrate more clean energy generation; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 19-06 (July 8, 2019) directs state agencies to lead a Heating Sector Transformation with the goal of reducing emissions from the heating sector while ensuring that Rhode Islanders have access to safe, reliable and affordable heating; and

WHEREAS, in December 2018, Rhode Island announced it was joining a coalition of nine states and the District of Columbia to design a regional program that would lower carbon emissions from the transportation sector and invest proceeds into more sustainable transportation solutions and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, there is no greater threat to Rhode Island, our planet, and our way of life than global climate change, and the time to act with urgency is upon us.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gina M. Raimondo, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby order and direct the following:

- 1. The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER) shall conduct economic and energy market analysis and develop viable policy and programmatic pathways to meet one hundred percent (100%) of the state's electricity demand with renewable energy resources by 2030.
- 2. OER's analysis shall consider how acceleration of the state's renewable energy supply can leverage market competition to reduce ratepayer costs and energy price volatility while creating economic development opportunities in Rhode Island's burgeoning clean energy economy.

Executive Order 20-01 January 17, 2020 Page 4

- 3. The Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (DPUC) and Department of Environmental Management (DEM) shall support OER in this effort.
- 4. OER shall provide periodic public updates on its work to the EC4.
- 5. OER shall provide the Governor with a specific and implementable action plan to achieve this goal, due by December 31, 2020, which shall include recommended programmatic, legislative, and/or regulatory initiatives that can be advanced beginning in 2021.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

So Ordered:

2 Gina M. Raimondo

Governor

Dated: January 17, 2020





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¹ APT test conditions according to IEC/TS 62804-1:2015, method B (-1500 V, 168h)
² See data sheet on rear for further information

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Rooftop arrays on residential buildings









© 2022 Google Image capture: Jul 2019

72 Moore St

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Street View & 360°

All

1/2 https://www.google.com/maps/place/72+Moore+St,+Providence,+RI+02907/@41.8051185,-71.4224619,3a,82.2y,179.82h,91.68t/data=13m611e113m411sQiIHZrkX8JaP5PSAD23i9wi2e01711638418i81921...



Providence, Rhode Island Google

Street View.- Jul 2019

Image capture: Jul 2019 © 2022 Google

https://www.google.com/maps/@41.8045568,-71.4224422,3a,75y,4.11h,96.4t/data=!3m6I1e1I3m4!1sW8PsLzxEAJ3e3aOJQq-RUwl2e0I716384!8i8192



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https://drive.google.com/drive/shared-with-me

Aurora Shade Report

Customer

Address 72 Moore St Providence, RI 02907, USA Designer Alex Perdue

Coordinates (41.804685, -71.422306) Organization NEC Solar

Date 25 May 2023



Panels that are visible should not be closer to the edge of the roof than the wall below; the panels can only be on the roof above the body of the house and not on the overhanging eaves.

- City of Newton, MA



Customer

Designer Alex Perdue

Address

72 Moore St Providence, RI 02907, USA

Coordinates (41.804685, -71.422306)

Organization NEC Solar

Date 25 May 2023

Zoomed out satellite view



3D model



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3D model with LIDAR overlay

60 ft

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Customer

Designer Alex Perdue

Coordinates

(41.804685, -71.422306)

Organization NEC Solar

Date

25 May 2023

Address 72 Moore St Providence, RI 02907, USA

Street view and corresponding 3D model





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I, Alex Perdue, certify that I have generated this shading report to the best of my abilities, and I believe its contents to be accurate.



Wiring to connect Solar Panels to existing Electrical Service will be routed through interior of house and will not visually impact the noteworthy architectural features of the house, particularly the bracketed cornice.



Existing Electric Service Meter with New Solar PV Disconnect



Existing Chase for Solar Conductors







Wiring will enter the attic below a panel and pass through a plumbing chase into the basement.



76 Moore St

69-71 Moore St











71 Whitmarsh Street - As viewed from Peace and Plenty Park



118 Princeton St As viewed from Moore St between 115 Moore St and 121 Moore St, properties on the RI National Register











55 Hammond St





170-172 Knight St

901 Main St Warren, RI









Webster Knight House 118 Princeton Avenue, Providence, RI, USA



George Sharpe Smith House 125 Princeton Avenue,

Providence, RI, USA



Jeffrey Davis House 260 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI, USA



The Whitmarsh 86 Whitmarsh Street, Providence, RI, USA



Arthur L. Peck House Arthur Peck Duplex



Frank H. Swift House 37 Whitmarsh Street, Providence, RI, USA

9/13/22, 8:41 AM

North Elmwood Historic District // Lists/Districts // Guide to Providence Architecture

52-54 Whitmarsh Street, Providence, RI, USA



Joseph G. Birch House 49 Princeton Avenue, Providence, RI, USA



Henry E. Nickerson House 71 Princeton Avenue, Providence, RI, USA



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Support

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