Architectural Review and Historic Preservation Board
Agenda Report
Meeting Date 04/06/16

REPORT
DATE: March 24, 2016

TO: Architectural Review and Historic Preservation Board

FROM: Jake Morley, Associate Planner, (879-6810, jake.morley@chicoca.gov)
Community Development Department

RE: Reconsideration of Architectural Review 16-01 (Chico Children’s Museum) – 321, 325 and 327 Main Street - Facade Remodel

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

At its March 2, 2016 meeting the Board approved a façade remodel of an existing commercial structure located on land designated Commercial Mixed Use on the General Plan diagram and located in the DN-L-COS (Downtown North-Landmark-Corridor Opportunity site) overlay zoning district (see Elevation, Attachment A), which after deliberation, received approval.

Due to a procedural error, staff recommends the Board reconsider a particular condition of approval regarding delegation of an alternative shade of yellow to the parapet. In addition, a condition of approval should not require staff to consult with a Board member on such a decision. In its deliberation, the Board should consider Design Guideline 1.3.67 where vibrant colors should only be applied as accents to architectural details such as cornices, windowsills, columns, awnings or signage. A Board decision to approve or deny the project is necessary.

Staff recommends that the Board re-affirm all other conditions of approval previously approved by the board (numbered 1 through 5 below).

For background please refer to the staff report for the March 2, 2016 meeting (Attachment B).

Proposed Motion for Final Approval

I move that the Architectural Review and Historic Preservation Board adopt the required findings contained in the March 2, 2016 agenda report, and approve Architectural Review 16-01 (Chico Children’s Museum), subject to the recommended conditions therein.

RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. The front page of all approved building plans shall note in bold type face that the project shall comply with AR 16-01 (Chico Children’s Museum). No building permits related to this approval shall be fialed without prior authorization of Community Development Department planning staff.

2. All development shall comply with all other State and local Code provisions, including those of the City of Chico Community Development and Public Works Departments. The permittee is responsible for contacting these offices to verify the need for compliance.
3. All parapet caps and other metal flashing shall be painted, consistent with the approved building colors.

4. The historical marking plaque, noting the location of the first city hall, shall be reinstalled to the façade of the structure.

5. The entrance tile, as submitted at the March 2, 2016 hearing, is approved. Tile is Glazed Porcelain by Dal Tile, Color: IG98 Midnight.

6. Proposed yellow color shall be reduced in intensity to a "warmer" or "cream-like" tone. Revised colors shall be submitted to staff for review and approval. Staff will consult with a Board member for final decision.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public notice requirements were fulfilled by placing a notice on the project site and by posting of the agenda at least 10 days prior to this ARHPB meeting.

ATTACHMENTS
A. Elevation
B. ARHPB Staff Report dated March 2, 2016

DISTRIBUTION
Internal (3)
Bob Summerville, Senior Planner
Jake Morley, Associate Planner
File: AR 16-01

External (3)
Manuel Breshauer Estate, 341 Broadway, Suite 305, Chico, CA 95928
Gary Hawkins, Architect, 3045 Ceres Avenue, Suite 135, Chico, CA 95973
Richard Billson, 3 Commerce Court, Suite 100, Chico, CA 95928

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FACADE REMODEL FOR 321 MAIN ST.
REPORT
DATE: February 16, 2016

TO: Architectural Review and Historic Preservation Board

FROM: Jake Morley, Associate Planner, (879-6810, jake.morley@chico.ca.gov)
Community Development Department

RE: Architectural Review 16-01 (Chico Children’s Museum) – 321, 325 and 327 Main Street - Facade Remodel

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

The applicant is proposing a front façade remodel of a vacant structure in Downtown Chico. The façade remodel brings historic design elements to a structure that is currently lacking an architectural character. The project implements General Plan policies that promote a high-quality pedestrian environment and lively streetscape within the Downtown core.

Proposed Motion for Final Approval

I move that the Architectural Review and Historic Preservation Board adopt the required findings contained in the agenda report and approve Architectural Review 16-01 (Chico Children’s Museum), subject to the recommended conditions therein.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Located on the east side of Main Street, mid-block between 3rd and 4th Streets, this project represents a significant façade enhancement in the Downtown (see Location Map, Attachment A). The subject site is located on land designated Commercial Mixed Use on the General Plan diagram and located in the DN-L-COS (Downtown North-Landmark-Corridor Opportunity Site) overlay zoning district.

The owners of the structure wish to convert the space from retail and bar to a museum, a land use allowed by right in the DN (Downtown North) zoning district (see Project Description, Attachment B).

Currently, due to the vacancy of the structure and the large alcove space in front, there is a chain link fence across the front to minimize trespassing. The proposal includes removal of the alcove space, and reconstructing the storefront close to the sidewalk with the introduction of storefront windows that fold open to an indoor patio area (see Floor Plan, Attachment C).

The structure itself will receive a façade enhancement with the removal of the existing brick and awning. New finished elements will be introduced such as cornice details, 12-inch and 16-inch gooseneck lighting fixtures, ceramic tiles and new storefront windows (See Exterior Elevations, Attachment D, see Light Detail, Attachment E).
Ceramic ("subway") tiles are proposed around the storefront, while a stucco finish is proposed above the entry ways. The title will be 3-inch by 6-inch in size and come in "arctic white" while the stucco will be painted "swiss coffee" and "digital yellow". The storefront windows will be framed in a bronze finish (see Color Elevations, Attachment F). A color materials board will be present at the public hearing.

Signage is proposed, which meets the Chico Municipal Code standards of 1 square foot per linear foot of building frontage. Proposed signage will individual mounted channel letters made of metal, that are indirectly illuminated by gooseneck lights mounted above.

REQUIRED FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL

Environmental Review

The project has been determined to be categorically exempt pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15301 Existing Facilities. The project involves the façade remodel to an existing structure. The project is consistent with the General Plan and zoning, and would not otherwise result in a potentially significant impact to the environment.

Architectural Review

According to the Chico Municipal Code Section 19.18.060, the Architectural Review and Historic Preservation Board shall determine whether or not a project adequately meets adopted City standards and design guidelines based on the required findings itemized below.

1. The proposed development is consistent with the General Plan, any applicable specific plan, and any applicable neighborhood or area plans.

   The project is consistent with the following goals and policies contained in the Community Design and Downtown Elements of the General Plan:

   Goal CD-3: Ensure project design that reinforces a sense of place with context sensitive elements and a human scale.

   Policy CD-3.1 (Lasting Design and Materials) - Promote architectural design that exhibits timeless character and is constructed with high quality materials.

   LU-G-13: Maintain and enhance Downtown's vitality and economic well-being, and its presence as the City's symbolic center.

   CD-G-22: Maintain and enhance a strong pedestrian scale and orientation within the Downtown through the design of buildings and streets.

   CD-G-24: Encourage a lively streetscape environment, with buildings and activities oriented to the street and sidewalk areas at ground level.

   Goal DT-3: Enhance the pedestrian environment in Downtown.
Policy DT-3.1 (Design for the Pedestrian Environment) - Enhance the high-quality pedestrian environment within Downtown through the design and maintenance of buildings, sidewalks, open spaces, and other pedestrian amenities.

2. The proposed development, including the character, scale, and quality of design are consistent with the purpose/intent of this chapter and any adopted design guidelines.

The proposal is consistent with the following design objective and guidelines from Chapter 1 (Community Design-Downtown sub-section) of the Design Guidelines Manual:

Objective - Reinforce the historic urban character of Downtown Chico with the design of new development and redevelopment.

DG 1.3.68 - Respect the original design in remodeling of older buildings regarding color, materials, and architectural details of the remodeled building and neighboring buildings.

DG 1.3.74 - Design the shape of awnings to fit the building's architecture as well as relate to other awnings that exist along the street.

3. The architectural design of structures, including all elevations, materials and colors are visually compatible with surrounding development. Design elements, including screening of equipment, exterior lighting, signs, and awnings, have been incorporated into the project to further ensure its compatibility with the character and uses of adjacent development.

The façade remodel enhances the surrounding streetscape and engages pedestrians by removing the alcove and bringing the store front to the public right-of-way. The proposal contains an attractive color palette and structural elements like subway tiles and gooseneck lighting.

4. The location and configuration of structures are compatible with their sites and with surrounding sites and structures, and do not unnecessarily block views from other structures or dominate their surroundings.

The proposal includes historic elements such as a new cornice and subway style tiles that can be found in the downtown area. The structure is existing and is not proposed to be have a significant height increase, and therefore will not block views or dominate the surrounding.

5. The general landscape design, including the color, location, size, texture, type, and coverage of plant materials, and provisions for irrigation and maintenance, and protection of landscape elements, have been considered to ensure visual relief, to complement structures, and to provide an attractive environment.

Existing street trees will remain, and no new landscaping will be introduced, due to the downtown location.
RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. The front page of all approved building plans shall note in bold type face that the project shall comply with AR 16-01 (Chico Children's Museum). No building permits related to this approval shall be finaled without prior authorization of Community Development Department planning staff.

2. All development shall comply with all other State and local Code provisions, including those of the City of Chico Community Development and Public Works Departments. The permittee is responsible for contacting these offices to verify the need for compliance.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public notice requirements were fulfilled by placing a notice on the project site and by posting of the agenda at least 10 days prior to this ARHPB meeting.

ATTACHMENTS
A. Location Map
B. Project Description
C. Floor Plan
D. Exterior Elevation
E. Light Detail
F. Color Elevation

DISTRIBUTION
Internal (3)
Bob Summerville, Senior Planner
Jake Morley, Associate Planner
File: AR 16-01

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January 15, 2016

Architectural Review and Historic Preservation Board
City of Chico Planning Department
411 Main Street
Chico, CA 95928

RE: Façade Remodel at 321, 325, and 327 Main Street in Chico;
Consistency with the City Of Chico Design Guidelines

We are pleased to present a design concept for the enhancement of an existing building at 321, 325, and 327 Main Street. It is our intent that the design is consistent with the City of Chico Design Guidelines. Although strategically placed in downtown, the site is currently unattractive in the heart of downtown Chico’s shopping district. This design represents our client’s concept for improving the visual approach to this important part of our town, and features the following design elements:

This concept provides a welcoming attraction for the downtown core and is consistent with the Design Objective of the Downtown Element of the General Plan.

- Appropriate architectural design and decorative details will be added that “consider the historic architectural qualities that give the building, and neighboring buildings, a distinctive character” per DG 1.3.61, and are consistent with the City’s Design Guidelines Manual Objective 1.3.1 “Reinforce the historic urban character of Downton Chico with the design of new development and redevelopment.”

- Appropriate signage and lighting will be applied that will “reflect the building’s architectural characteristics, while effectively presenting the business’s image” per DG 1.3.51 and accent the space front that to enhance night time character, compliant with DG 1.3.56 1.3.57.

- This façade remodel reflects our consideration of the historic architectural qualities of the neighboring buildings so as to restore the distinctive character to this space, in compliance with the DG 1.3.61.

- Appropriate architectural design on the fronts exterior will bring back “tile panels that have been altered or destroyed” as a way to restore the character of the storefront and bring unity with neighboring buildings per DG 1.3.73.

It is our hope that you will agree that this project represents our interest in adding a significant improvement to Downtown Chico. The façade remodel at 321, 325, and 327 Main Street is an aesthetic enhancement that will restore character and charm to a section of Chico’s shopping district that is currently lost.

Sincerely,

Gary Hawkins
EXTERIOR ELEVATION - REMODEL

SCALE: 3/8"=1'-0"

ALL EXTERIOR SIGNAGE UNDER SEPARATE PERMIT. SIGNAGE SHOWN FOR REFERENCE ONLY.
Shade Color: White

3x 12" Shade  ●  Signage
4x 16" Shade  ●  Sidewalk
## LED WAREHOUSE SHADE COLLECTION: The Universal

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<th>Item #</th>
<th>Standard Finishes</th>
<th>Mounting Options</th>
<th>Mounting Color</th>
<th>Optional Accessories</th>
<th>Accessory Colors</th>
<th>LED Options</th>
<th>LED Lens</th>
<th>Voltage</th>
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<td>Cord: Standard 1: Black</td>
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<td>WC-Wire Cage</td>
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### ORDER SPECIFICS

| BLE- | WHU16-PC-LED | 100 | SBK | 100: |

### Notes:

1. Suitable for Damp locations. Standard length 8 feet.
2. Suitable for Dry locations Only (Not CSA listed). Standard length 6 feet.
3. Additional lengths available on Cord & Stem
4. Suitable for Wet Location (except when cord mounted)