



City of New Bedford

Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development

608 Pleasant St, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740

Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

PATRICK J. SULLIVAN

DIRECTOR

STAFF COMMENTS

NEW BEDFORD HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING

December 7, 2015

LOCATION: 89 N Water Street

APPLICANT: Amelia Ruvich

OVERVIEW: Installation of fencing with a gate.

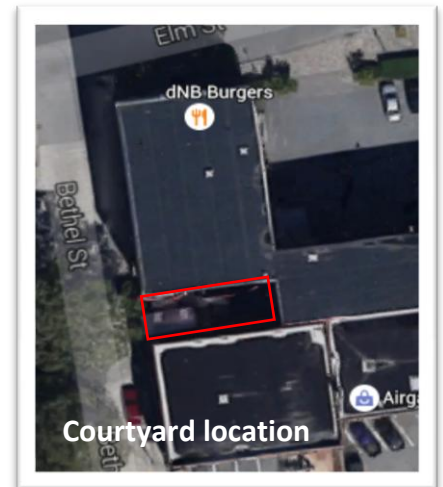
EXISTING CONDITIONS: A courtyard exists between the buildings at 89 N Water Street and 38 Bethel Street. The courtyard is part of the 89 N Water Street property and it fronts Bethel Street. The courtyard is 25' wide and 50' deep with a curb cut and an asphalt surface. Two door entrances into the 89 N Water Street building are accessed from the courtyard and a screened area exists in the rear of the courtyard for the building's mechanical systems. The courtyard is presently used for storage.

PROPOSAL: Installation of a 6' high natural cedar wood fence between the two buildings, approximately 25' in from the sidewalk. An 8' wide gate of the same material will be located in the fence. The purpose of the fence is to screen a dumpster, trash bins and other materials related to the restaurant operations within 89 N Water Street; while allowing for a single handicap parking space in front of the fence.

STATEMENT OF APPLICABLE GUIDELINES: The Bedford Landing District Design Guidelines states the following:

- *New fences and site walls should not prevent or restrict views of buildings from a public way. The design should be appropriate in scale, materials, and architectural style to the building, its site and the surrounding properties.*
- *Modern equipment should, in general, be located to minimize visibility from a public way. Visible elements should be designed or use colors to blend the equipment into its surroundings and/or be screened by an appropriately designed and scaled fence or plant material.*

FOR BOARD MEMBER CONSIDERATION: The size, style and material of the proposed fence are based upon previously approved fence screening within the district. The model is the mechanical enclosure at the Buzzards Bay Coalition.



Courtyard location



Courtyard storage materials visible from Bethel Street.



Proposed fence material.

The fence will be constructed to be 6' high, with natural cedar planks and black strap hinges. The fence location will be situated in a manner to allow and meet the dimensional requirements for a single handicap parking space.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The fence is necessary to screen the restaurant's trash receptacles and other operating materials and should be granted a Certificate of appropriateness.

