

Historic Preservation Commission

Staff Report

Meeting Date: April 14, 2021

Case #: HPC 17-21

Site Address: 420 Queen City Ave
Parcel ID: 31-05-22-1-107-016.000
Applicant: Tommy Wagner
Owner: Tommy Wagner

Proposed Work: Petition for a Certificate of Appropriateness for exterior alterations on the structure
Current Zoning: BN-H

Historic District: Druid City
Architectural Style: N/A
Year Built: Circa 1960
Contributing: N/A
Historic Survey: Druid City Historic District

N/A

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT:

The petitioner is proposing a new aluminum sign with vinyl lettering on the front façade of the building, with dimensions of 12ft wide by 4ft tall. The proposed sign is for the commercial business within the unit, and will read “Wagners RUNWALK”.

STAFF ANALYSIS:

The proposed sign will be larger than the previous sign at this location, but the size and style seem to be compatible with the other signs in the shopping center. The sign materials of aluminum and vinyl are listed as appropriate sign materials in the Guidelines (pg 29).

APPLICABLE DESIGN GUIDELINES:

Signs

- Design and install all signs to a size and scale and of types that conform to the historic context of the district and its structures and in a manner to focus only on the intended audience.
- Retain and preserve original signs that contribute to the overall historic character of the building or district.
- Introduce new signage that is compatible in material, size, scale and character with the building or the district. Design signage to enhance the architectural character of a building.
- If desired install small identification signs and historic plaques for residential buildings so that no architectural features or details are obscured or damaged.
- Construct new signs of traditional sign materials:

Examples of Appropriate Materials:

- Stone
- Brick
- Vinyl lettering and/or sign face
- Wrought iron or metal
- Canvas awning
- Wood
- Stucco
- High Density Urethane (HDU) sign board (or equivalent) resembling wood or metal for lettering or logo

Examples of Inappropriate Materials:

- Vinyl sign structure or vinyl awning
- Internally illuminated signs
- Plastic

- Mount flush signboards in appropriate locations on façades so that no architectural details or features are obscured or damaged. On masonry buildings, holes for fasteners should be placed in the mortar joints, not the masonry units.
- Light signs in a manner compatible within the historic character and the pedestrian scale of the historic district.
- For commercial and institutional buildings, design signs to be integral to the overall building façade. Avoid covering a large portion of the façade, front yard, or any significant architectural features with signage.
- Temporary signs, including sales advertising, and real estate signs should be located so as not to damage or obscure significant architectural features, and shall be removed upon completion of work, sale, campaign, etc. The maximum number of allowable signs shall be one per street frontage.
- Signs directing users to an accessible entrance or parking space should be installed to avoid damaging or obscuring significant architectural features, while conforming to Accessibility Standards (ADAAG).



TUSCALOOSA
HISTORIC PLANNING COMMISSION

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION

Please complete all of the following required fields:

Address of premises affected: 420 Queen City Avenue ^{Property} Historic District: <SELECT>
Owner Occupied ☒ Renter Occupied ☐

Name: Tommy Wagner ^{Owner} Phone: 205.345.5242 Email: _____
Address: 420 Queen City Avenue Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Name: _____ ^{Applicant (if different from owner)} Phone: 205.345.5242 Email: admin@knightsign.com
Address: 5959 Knight Avenue Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

Name: Knight Sign Industries inc. ^{Contractor or Architect} Phone: 205.345.5242 Email: admin@knightsign.com
Address: 5959 Knight Avenue Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

Check the box that best describes your intended action(s) & include all estimated costs: \$ 4,252

- ☐ Exterior Alteration
☐ Addition or New Construction
☒ Signage

☐ Other (please explain):

Certification of Applicant

I hereby certify that I have read and examined this application and known the same to be true and correct. I understand that consideration of this application is based upon the correctness of the information I have supplied and that any permit (s) granted may be revoked upon finding by the Tuscaloosa Historic Preservation Commission that any relevant information supplied on or with the application is substantially incorrect. I further understand that only complete applications including all required exhibits, and fees are considered by the commission and must be received by the City of Tuscaloosa Office of Urban Development, Planning Division by the scheduled deadline in order to be placed on the agenda.

It is my understanding that a Certificate of Appropriateness shall become void unless construction is commenced within six (6) months of the date of issuance. Certificates of Appropriateness shall be issued for a period of eighteen (18) months and are renewable.

It is my understanding that a building permit issued by the City of Tuscaloosa Office of Urban Development, Planning Division is required for all work being done in historic districts.

Finally, it is my understanding that the plans submitted with this application and approved by the Commission are *final*, and, pending Commission approval, I am bound to follow the plans as approved. Should there be any changes to the approved plans, I understand that those changes must be reviewed prior to any work associated with such changes occurring.

Applicant: Jessica Date: 7/1/21



TUSCALOOSA

SIGN PERMIT APPLICATION

Please complete all of the following required fields:

Location of Property

Business Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ City/State: _____ / _____ ZIP Code: _____

Property Owner

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ City/State: _____ / _____ ZIP Code: _____

Applicant (if different from owner)

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Sign Installer or Contractor

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ City/State: _____ / _____ ZIP Code: _____
City License Number: _____ General Contractor Number: _____

The Applicant requests a permit for the following item(s):

Work Class: _____ Number of Signs: _____ Estimated Value: \$ _____

Sign Specifications (complete one (1) column per sign type)

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Sign Type | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Number of Signs | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Sign / Bldg. Façade – Width | _____ / _____ | _____ / _____ | _____ / _____ |
| Sign / Bldg. Façade – Height | _____ / _____ | _____ / _____ | _____ / _____ |
| Sign / Bldg. Façade – Area | _____ / _____ | _____ / _____ | _____ / _____ |
| Sign Lighting | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Sign & Post Materials | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Overall Height | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Certification of Applicant

I understand that this permit is conditioned upon the correctness of the information I have supplied above and may be revoked upon a finding by the building or zoning official that any relevant item of information is substantially incorrect. I further understand that this permit shall be null and void unless construction on the sign has substantially commenced within three (3) months from the date on which this permit is issued. I certify that all of the above information is true and correct.

☐ **I HAVE REVIEWED, COMPLETED, & AGREE TO ALL SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS ON THE BACK OF THIS APPLICATION**

Print Name: _____ Signature: Jessica Lee Date: _____

Please review the following information prior to application submission:

Applicability:

No person shall erect, alter, relocate, repair, replace the face of, or change a sign without first obtaining a permit; except for the following actions, which shall not require a permit:

1. Changing the copy, announcement, or message on a changeable copy sign
2. Cleaning, painting, or comparable maintenance of a sign that does not alter the size, image or message of the sign
3. Erecting a sign for which a permit is not required in accordance with Section 24-134 (Signs Allowed Without Permit) of the City of Tuscaloosa Municipal Code

Submittal Requirements:

NO request for a sign permit shall be considered complete until **ALL** of the following items have been submitted:
(minimum drawing scale: 1" = 60')

- ☐ Signed PERMIT APPLICATION with all submission documents
- ☐ SITE PLAN showing the locations & dimensions of all adjacent setbacks, streets, walkways, modes of egress, & structures
- ☐ SIGN PLAN showing the graphic, material, & dimensional specifications as to how sign elements will be constructed
- ☐ SITE ELEVATION showing all signage, landscaping, walls or fencing, parking, & streetscape features
- ☐ INVENTORY of the number, type, location, & display area of all existing signs on the same property and/or building on which the sign is to be located

Additional items for **FREE STANDING** sign types

- ☐ MIN & MAX Height of signs, measured from finished grade
- ☐ DIST from Sign Edge to Right-of-Way

Additional items for **PROJECTING** sign types

- ☐ Building's 1st Floor height
- ☐ ALL requirements for **FREESTANDING** sign types

Additional items for **BUILDING/WALL** sign types

- ☐ Drawing of main or entry façade, including linear dimensions

Additional items for **ELECTRONIC/DIGITAL/VIDEO** sign types

- ☐ For any sign that contains electronic, digital or video components, the business owner or manager **MUST** acknowledge their understanding of the "Limitations & Restrictions of Electronic, Digital, or Video Signage" by signing below.

Some sign applications shall require a State of Alabama registered architect or engineer's seal and a written statement certifying that said sign structure(s) complies with the building code requirements concerning the same.

Limitations & Restrictions of

Electronic, Digital, or Video Signage:

The use of electronic, digital or video technology in signs is permitted and allowed, subject to the following limitations and additional restrictions:

- A. Such technology shall be programmed so that the message or image on the sign changes no more often than once every eight (8) seconds.
- B. There shall be no effects of movement, blinking, animation, scrolling, flashing, scintillation, or similar effects in the individual images.
- C. Changes of image shall be instantaneous as seen by the human eye and shall not use fading, rolling, window shading, dissolving, or similar effects as part of the change.
- D. Video technology in signs shall use automatic level controls to reduce light levels at night and under cloudy and other darkened conditions, in accordance with the following standards. All electronic, video or digital display unit signs shall have installed ambient light monitors, and shall at all times allow such monitors to automatically adjust the brightness level of the electronic sign based on ambient light conditions. Maximum brightness levels for electronic, video or digital display signs shall not exceed five thousand (5,000) nits when measured from the signs face at its maximum brightness, during daylight hours, and five hundred (500) nits when measured from the signs face at its maximum brightness between sunset and sunrise, as those times are determined by the National Weather Service.
- E. Any changeable copy sign using electronic, digital or video technology which malfunctions, fails or ceases to operate in its usual or normal programmed manner, causing motion, movement, flashing or any similar effects, shall be restored to its normal operation conforming within this section within forty-eight (48) hours unless the Director of the Tuscaloosa Department of Transportation considers such malfunction to be a hazard to the health, safety and welfare of the public and orders the sign to be turned off, disconnected or disabled.
- F. Any changeable copy freestanding sign using electronic, digital or video technology shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet in area excepting therefrom billboards as set forth in subsection (4).
- G. No billboard or sign containing a commercial message related to goods, services, products or other commercial activities that are not offered on the same premises on which the sign is located shall be permitted and allowed except in those locations where billboards are permitted and allowed.

Print Name: _____

Signature: Jessica Lee

Date: _____

**PLEASE SUBMIT AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT
AND ANY NECESSARY SUPPORTING MATERIALS TO:**

Office of Urban Development:
Planning Division

2201 University Boulevard, Annex III
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Patrick Pugh
Email: ppugh@tuscaloosa.com

PROFILES

1. Black metal awning covering 2" tube frame.
2. White 3M vinyl

8Q. FT.: 35.00

Date: February 28, 2021
Job Name: Wagner's
Job Location: Tallapoosa, AL
Subcontract: C-102
Designer: J. Thompson
Drawing Number: 231710

[illegible]

Front View
Scale: 3/4" = 1'-0"

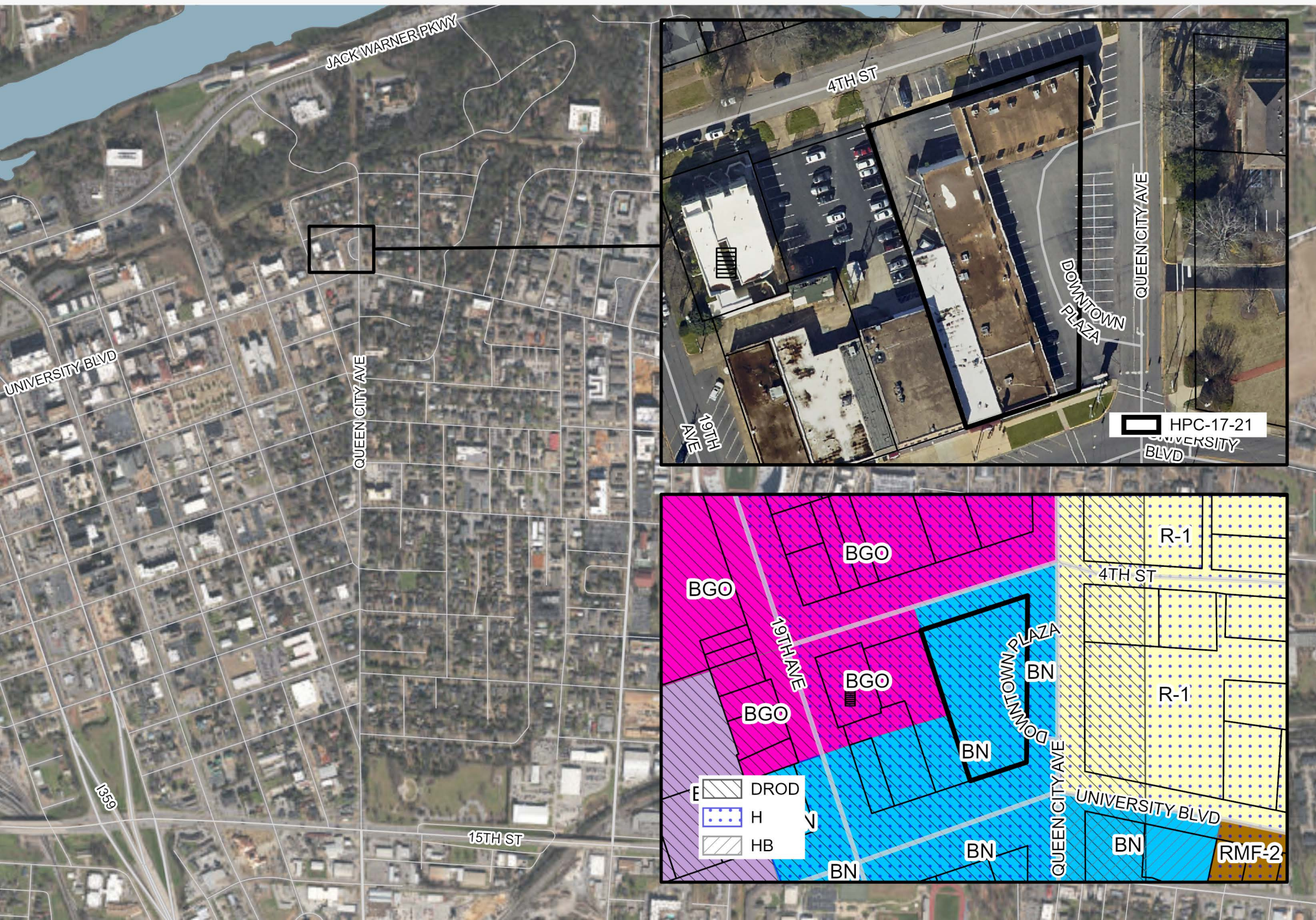


**Shown on Photo
NTS**



HPC-17-21: 420 Queen City Avenue

1 inch = 100 feet
0 50 100 150 200





HPC-17-21: 420 Queen City Avenue

1 inch = 70 feet
0 35 70 105 140

N



HPC-17-21

wagner's
RUNWALK

420

21147