



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PLANNING DIVISION

STAFF PRESENT
MELISSA WOODS, *PLANNER*

MEMBERS PRESENT
MATT RICE, CHAIR
DEBORAH FENNICK
FRANK VALDES

DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS and MINUTES

The City of Somerville Design Review Committee held a public meeting on **Thursday, April 23, 2014**, at **6:30 p.m.** at City Hall 3rd Floor Conference Room, 93 Highland Avenue. Somerville, MA 02143.

The purpose of the meeting was to review and make recommendations on the following proposals:

260 Beacon Street

Description: The DRC reviewed materials for the previously approved project. The development team presented a storefront system on the first floor with a surround of high density fiber board, a tan Nichiha fiber panel, a Nichiha wood panel accent, and an orange painted stucco accent 'panel.' The railings on the front of the building will be a mesh that is most similar to the mesh on the green wall.

The DRC made the following recommendations on the design.

- The textured pavement on the driveway should match the transition of materials on the side elevation.
- At the storefront, the high density fiber board 'column' should have depth. The corners of the material will be mitered.
- The Nichiha wood look is not an acceptable material to staff and some members of the DRC.
 - Acceptable alternatives that should be explored are real wood, Longboard siding, Trespa, stained cement board, or Certainteed wood board.
 - The patina of the wood is the important element, not the wood grain.
 - The development team is interested in installing real wood on the front of the building, most likely cedar, and an alternative color Nichiha panel on the sides of the building. The real wood may change the orange accent color.
- The railings are preferred to be painted or stainless since galvanized metal is not smooth to the touch.
- The signage should be tasteful since it's on such a fine material, consider stainless letters with lighting.

The Applicant will incorporate the design suggestions and work with Planning Staff on the final materials selection. They will install a mockup on site for Staff and DRC review.

