

To: The Community Preservation Panel

Application # 25-07

My wife and I own the property to the South of the Aurora Library (366 Main St.), unfortunately I am unable to attend your meeting tonight but want to express some concerns regarding this permit application.

Given that there is already one existing unit that has a fan and there are going to be 2 more units installed, how much noise will this create when they are operating? My experience with these types of units is they create a noticeable noise with just one unit but with all 3 running it will be very noticeable both from our property but also 16 Cherry St. Has this been taken into consideration. Is there any data that these new units won't create more noticeable noise? Perhaps this is a non-issue but nothing in the application gives the manufacturers specification for the size and noise levels of the proposed units.

Currently the unit installed is not shielded with any privacy fencing to visually hide the current unit. Adding 2 more units in this location will not fit in with the character of the property. This "backside" of the library is highly visible from Cherry Ave, 16 Cherry and our property. I think the Preservation Panel should take seriously the visual characteristics of this proposal. I would suggest the panel and applicant reconsider approval subject to a design of fencing/enclosure to mitigate this problem.

My last point and I understand this is not Preservation Panels job has the library considered alternates to the system they are proposing. Given the building is covered by historic preservation and will hopefully be standing well beyond our lifetimes it would now be a good time to consider Geothermal for the total HVAC needs for the building. Using Geothermal is environmentally sound, removes any external HVAC units (enhancing the visual building appeal) and would eliminate burning of fossil fuels on site. The mechanics of a geothermal system will last for many years with the wells lasting 100 plus years.

Before the library proceeds with the proposed project, I would urge them to do some research and get some cost estimate for a geothermal project. We used Moravic Geothermal for our house (we replaced propane) and are more than happy with the results. I'm sure that Kevin at Moravic would be more than happy to do a walk through and give you some budgetary numbers. Of course, upfront costs are significant, but state NYSEERDA money is available as well as possible direct dollar money from the IRA for nonprofits through the IRS. Hopefully federal dollars don't disappear. Also, other monies may be available from grants. Geothermal is the long-term play!

Underneath the driveway would be the perfect place to install vertical wells and we would be more than willing to work with a contractor, given installation would be disruptive to our access to our property.

So, my thoughts on this permit application and hope that the library and Community Preservation Panel take these thoughts into consideration before any final decisions are made.

Sincerely

Burch Craig 585-721-4126
Property owner 366 Main St.