

212 E Ontario public comments for 6/9 meeting

Amy Ringenbach <amyringenbach@gmail.com>

Wed 6/8/2022 11:39 AM

To: ccl <ccl@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

I have lived at 230 E Ontario for over 20 years. I have always felt very lucky to have such a beautiful house on our block. It is a little time capsule next to the hotels, offices, and restaurants. I know that if a business wants to use that building, they will need an ADA ramp. My worry is that a cannabis dispensary will mean more renovations than a normal business would need. Another business could use the building while keeping more of the original structure.

Thank you for your consideration,

Amy Ringenbach
230 E Ontario #904
Chicago, IL 60611

212 E Ontario St. Proposed Dispensary

Beth Padera <bethpadera@hotmail.com>

Tue 6/7/2022 5:27 PM

To: ccl <ccl@cityofchicago.org>

[Warning: External email]

Hello Chicago Landmark Commission:

I am writing to oppose the use of the landmarked building at 212 E Ontario for a dispensary as disrespectful to the history and neighborhood of that unique building. Please oppose this proposal.

Beth Padera
Streeterville Resident

June 7, 2022

RE: 212 E. Ontario, incorrectly listed as 212 W. Ontario

Dear Commission on Chicago Landmarks Permit Review Committee:

I am writing about 212 E. Ontario and the proposal by Green & Bransford, LLC to turn this landmark building into a pot store (cannabis dispensary). I have lived at 230 E. Ontario as a renter in 1992, and as a condo owner since 1993. Other than 212, 230 E. Ontario is the only other residential building in the 200 block of East Ontario. I have walked by 212 for over 30 years, and have delighted in the beauty and grace of the building's architecture.

My concern is how this 1885 building designed and built by Burling & Whitehouse in the Queen Anne and Romanesque Revival styles will be preserved. As you know, in a 2/6/2020 report, Mayor Lightfoot and the Commission on Chicago Landmarks designated 212 E. Ontario a landmark building. At the March 22, 2022 community meeting by Green & Bransford LLC, an unidentified person stated that there would be a handicap ramp built, an elevator installed inside the building, remodeling of the interior, and about 400-600 people a day would pass through the building to pick up orders of pot, or cannabis products, and walk ins will also be welcome. I am afraid that such a beautiful, historically important building is at risk of not being preserved.

I have no objection to an ADA accessible ramp in the side yard. If it becomes a business, 212 must be ADA accessible. I have no access to the Sandberg Architecture and Design Inc. plans, so I don't know how the ramp in the side yard will impact the overall look and feel of the building, but I assume you are ensuring that all standards are being complied with. I simply wish to state that there are many other non-landmark locations in Streeterville that could be home to a cannabis dispensary. Burling, who once worked with Adler, created a beautiful building for all Chicagoans to admire and enjoy. I fear that the high traffic expected and plans to remodel the interior of 212 will forever change this beautiful landmark building.

Please let me know of any other plans to modify the exterior of 212 E. Ontario, or further hearings before the Commission on Chicago Landmarks.

Thank you,
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