

Tabernacle of Grace Church

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I am in agreement with the formation of a South End Study Committee for the possible establishment of a local historic district commission. Although Tabernacle of Grace Church is an apparent newcomer to the neighborhood, the church's first location was at 523 Pacific Street in the South End neighborhood. In addition, I lived and worked in the South End for many years prior and understand the dynamics of what it takes to make a community cohesive and thriving. Attributes such as affordable home ownership within the current neighborhood design, residential friendliness and preservation and protection of existing structures are important to maintain continuity and quality of life for those who have made the south end their home for generations.

I am especially concerned about the change in zoning surrounding the church, including allowance for a liquor license and other potential development plans that could negatively impact our property value as this was not our understanding of the zoning as was in effect during the time of our purchase.

The Tabernacle of Grace Church building was built in 1917, and as such is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has been well maintained. We would like to see the surrounding neighborhood grow within a balanced and traditional plan that would blend in with the historic architecture of the existing multi-family homes with a clear understanding of the impact of development.

We would be proud to assist with the community's efforts for a Study Committee.

Thank you,

Reverend Annette Exantus

