EXPEDITED
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
STAFF REPORT

Address: 7305 Willow Ave., Takoma Park  
Resource: Contributing Resource  
Takoma Park Historic District  
Applicant: Ryan Doyle  
Review: HAWP  
Permit No.: 936950  
Proposal: Solar Panel Installation  
Meeting Date: 1/27/2021  
Report Date: 1/20/2021  
Public Notice: 1/13/2021  
Tax Credit: n/a  
Staff: Dan Bruechert

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

☑ Approve
☐ Approve with conditions

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing Resource to the Takoma Park Historic District  
STYLE: Craftsman  
DATE: 1920

Figure 1: 7305 Willow Ave.
I.B

**PROPOSAL**

The applicant proposes to install 13 (thirteen) solar panels in two arrays. The array on the right (south) roof slope will have 8 (eight) solar panels and will be partially visible from the public right-of-way. The second array has 5 (five) panels and will be installed on the right (south) roof slope on the non-historic rear addition and will not be visible from the right-of-way.

![Figure 2: Front elevation, the solar panels will be installed on the right roof slope currently obscured by the trees.](image)

**APPLICABLE GUIDELINES**

**Policy On Use of Expedited Staff Reports for Simple HAWP Cases**

IV. The Expedited Staff Report format may be used on the following type of cases:

2. Modifications to a property, which do not significantly alter its visual character.

**Historic Preservation Commission Policy No. 20-01: ADDRESSING EMERGENCY CLIMATE MOBILIZATION THROUGH THE INSTALLATION OF ROOF-MOUNTED SOLAR PANELS**

**Montgomery County Code; Chapter 24A-8**

(b) The commission shall instruct the director to issue a permit, or issue a permit subject to such conditions as are found to be necessary to ensure conformity with the purposes and requirements of this chapter, if it finds that:
(1) The proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic site or historic resource within an historic district; or
(2) The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site or the historic district in which an historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto or to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter; or
(d) In the case of an application for work on an historic resource located within an historic district, the commission shall be lenient in its judgment of plans for structures of little historical or design significance or for plans involving new construction, unless such plans would seriously impair the historic or architectural value of surrounding historic resources or would impair the character of the historic district. (Ord.No. 9-4, § 1; Ord. No. 11-59)

Secretary of Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation

The Secretary of the Interior defines rehabilitation as “the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features, which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.” The relevant Standards are as follows:

2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.
9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportions, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the HAWP application under the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b)(1) (2), and (d), having found that the proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of the historic resource and is compatible in character with the district and the purposes of Chapter 24A; the Historic Preservation Commission Policy No. 20-01: ADDRESSING EMERGENCY CLIMATE MOBILIZATION THROUGH THE INSTALLATION OF ROOF-MOUNTED SOLAR PANELS;

and with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation #2, 9, and 10;

and with the general condition that the applicant shall present the 3 permit sets of drawings, if applicable, to Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) staff for review and stamping prior to submission for the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (DPS) building permits;

and with the general condition that final project design details, not specifically delineated by the Commission, shall be approved by HPC staff or brought back to the Commission as a revised HAWP application at staff’s discretion;

and with the general condition that the applicant shall notify the Historic Preservation Staff if they propose to make any alterations to the approved plans. Once the work is completed the applicant will contact the staff person assigned to this application at 301-563-3400 or dan.bruechert@montgomeryplanning.org to schedule a follow-up site visit.
APPLICATION FOR
HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
301.563.3400

APPLICANT:

Name: Ryan Doyle
Address: 7305 Willow Avenue
Daytime Phone: 410-579-5172

E-mail: rdoyle@solarenergyworld.com
City: Takoma Park
Zip: 20912
Tax Account No.: 01074164

AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable):

Name: Ryan Doyle
Address: 5681 Main Street
Daytime Phone: 410-579-5172

E-mail: rdoyle@solarenergyworld.com
City: Elkridge
Zip: 21075
Contractor Registration No.: MHIC 127353

LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP # of Historic Property

Is the Property Located within an Historic District? Yes/District Name
__ No/Individual Site Name

Is there an Historic Preservation/Land Trust/Environmental Easement on the Property? If YES, include a map of the easement, and documentation from the Easement Holder supporting this application.

Are other Planning and/or Hearing Examiner Approvals/Reviews Required as part of this Application? (Conditional Use, Variance, Record Plat, etc.)? If YES, include information on these reviews as supplemental information.

Building Number: 7305 Street: Willow Avenue

Town/City: Takoma Park Nearest Cross Street: Valley View Avenue

Lot: 16 Block: 8 Subdivision: 0025 Parcel: N/A

TYPE OF WORK PROPOSED: See the checklist on Page 4 to verify that all supporting items for proposed work are submitted with this application. Incomplete Applications will not be accepted for review. Check all that apply:

□ New Construction □ Deck/Porch □ Shed/Garage/Accessory Structure
□ Addition □ Fence □ Solar
□ Demolition □ Hardscape/Landscape □ Tree removal/planting
□ Grading/Excavation □ Roof □ Window/Door
□ Other: __________________________

I hereby certify that I have the authority to make the foregoing application, that the application is correct and accurate and that the construction will comply with plans reviewed and approved by all necessary agencies and hereby acknowledge and accept this to be a condition for the issuance of this permit.

Signature of owner or authorized agent 12/16/2020 Date
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner's mailing address</th>
<th>Owner's Agent's mailing address</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federico Azcarate</td>
<td>Ryan Doyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7305 Willow Avenue</td>
<td>5681 Main Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takoma Park, MD 20912</td>
<td>Elkridge, MD 21075</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjacent and confronting Property Owners mailing addresses</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adjacent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Defee Jr. &amp; Maria Kreiser</td>
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<tr>
<td>7303 Willow Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Takoma Park, MD 20912</td>
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<tr>
<td>Backyard Confronting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Landefeld &amp; Christine Debridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7228 Spruce Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Takoma Park, MD 20912</td>
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</table>
Description of Property: Please describe the building and surrounding environment. Include information on significant structures, landscape features, or other significant features of the property:

Single Family Home built in 1920

Description of Work Proposed: Please give an overview of the work to be undertaken:

- Install 11 roof mounted solar panels on S-SW facing roof
- Micro Inverters to be installed under each panel
- Utility disconnect to be installed next utility meter along with electrical combiner box for micro-inverters
- Panels on S-SW facing roof for maximum efficiency
Historical Area Work Permit Application for Roof Mounted Solar

Federico Azcarate, 7305 Willow Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912

Front View

West View

East View

Utility Side Before Installation
Utility Side Example After Installation
IQ7
Critter Guard
EV Charger

PLAN VIEW TOTAL ROOF AREA: 2,461.4 sq. ft.
SOLAR ARRAY AREA: 56.4 sq. ft.
THE SOLAR ARRAY IS 2.3% OF THE PLAN VIEW TOTAL ROOF AREA

SOLAR PANEL LAYOUT

KEY
- FIRE SAFETY ZONE

NOTES:
2. SNAPBACK SOLAR MOUNT RAIL WILL BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SNAPBACK INSTALLATION MANUAL
3. CONDUIT MARKED ($) ARE ALONG ROOF SLOPE
4. REFER TO STRUCTURAL DRAWING FOR SECTIONS MARKED AND ADDITIONAL NOTES
MUNICIPALITY LETTER
December 16, 2020

To: Federico Azcarate / fred.azcarate@gmail.com / 202-344-5947
7305 Willow Ave,
Takoma Park, MD 20912

To: Department of Permitting Services
255 Rockville Pike, 2nd Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850-4166 Fax 240-777-6398; 240-777-6262; 240-777-6223

From: Planning and Development Services Division

THIS IS NOT A PERMIT – For Informational Purposes Only

VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM DATE OF ISSUE

The property owner is responsible for obtaining all required permits from
Montgomery County and the City of Takoma Park. If this property is in the Takoma Park
Historic District, it is subject to Montgomery County Historic Preservation requirements.

Representative/email: Ryan Doyle / rdoyle@solarenergyworld.com
Location of Project: 7305 Willow Ave, Takoma Park, MD; 20912
Proposed Scope of Work: Installing 11 roof top solar panels, 3.52 KW.

The purpose of this municipality letter is to inform you that the City of Takoma Park has
regulations and city permit requirements that may apply to your project. This municipality letter
serves as notification that, in addition to all Montgomery County requirements, you are required
to comply with all City permitting requirements, including:

• Tree Impact Assessment/Tree Protection Plan
• Stormwater management
• City Right of Way

Failure to comply with these requirements could result in the issuance of a Stop Work Order and
other administrative actions within the provisions of the law. Details of Takoma Park’s permit
requirements are attached on page 2.

The issuance of this letter does not indicate approval of the project nor does it authorize the
property owner to proceed with the project. The City retains the right to review and comment on
project plans during the Montgomery County review process.
The City of Takoma Park permits for the following issues:

Tree Impact Assessment/Tree Protection Plan/Tree Removal Application:
Construction activities that occur within 50 feet of any urban forest tree (7 5/8" in diameter or greater), located on the property or on an adjacent property, may require a Tree Impact Assessment and Tree Protection Plan. Make sure to submit a Tree Impact Assessment and schedule a site visit with the City's Urban Forest Manager if any urban forest tree will be impacted by the proposed construction. The removal of any urban forest tree will require a tree removal application. The tree ordinance is detailed in the City Code, section 12.12. For permit information check: https://takomaparkmd.gov/services/permits/tree-permits/. The City's Urban Forest Manager can be reached at 301-891-7612 or janzv@takomaparkmd.gov

Stormwater Management:
If you plan to develop or redevelop property, you may be required to provide appropriate stormwater management measures to control or manage runoff, as detailed in City Code section 16.04. All commercial or institutional development in the city must apply for Stormwater Management Permit regardless of the size of the land disturbance. Additions or modifications to existing detached single-family residential properties do not require a Stormwater Management permit if the project does not disturb more than 5,000 square feet of land area. For more information: https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/public-works/stormwater-management-program/. The City Engineer should be contacted to determine if a City permit is required at 301-891-7620.

City Right of Way:
- To place a construction dumpster or storage container temporarily on a City right of way (usually an adjacent road), you will need to obtain a permit. A permit is not required if the dumpster is placed in a privately-owned driveway or parking lot.
- If you plan to install a new driveway apron, or enlarge or replace an existing driveway apron, you need a Driveway Apron Permit.
- If you plan to construct a fence in the City right of way, you need to request a Fence Agreement. If approved, the Agreement will be recorded in the Land Records of Montgomery County.

For more information and applications for City permits, see https://takomaparkmd.gov/services/permits/ or contact the Takoma Park Department of Public Works at 301-891-7633.

Failure to comply with the City’s permitting requirements could result in the issuance of a Stop Work Order and other administrative actions within the provisions of the law.