

Ballard Avenue Landmark District
Staff report summary for the meeting of June 5, 2025

060525.2 APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

060525.21 The Little Beast
5107 Ballard Ave NW
Polly and Tony Yakovich, Business Owners

Application: Proposal for a storefront blade sign for a new business.

Exhibits

- Site plan.
- Photos of existing storefront.
- Scale drawings.
- Sign colors, material, and design information.

Relevant Landmark District Guidelines:

Guideline Title	Comments
13, Signs:	Appears to conform.
13(a), Sign Materials:	Appears to conform.
13(c), Blade Signs:	Blade sign and hanger appear to conform.

Additional topic: Informal consultation with the board regarding the potential installation of a storefront security gate at this location. Applicant will present concepts and solicit board input to inform further planning regarding a security gate.

Supporting materials provided by applicant:

- Statements and photos regarding security issues.
- Photos of the proposed location.
- Rendering.
- Gate specifications.
- Photos of existing scissor gates within the Landmark District.

Relevant Guidelines:

4. Building Materials and Fixtures – Board to consider whether the proposed style, materials, and overall aesthetic of a scissor-style gate are compatible with the storefront and the district.

Additional relevant information:

- The staff recommended that the applicant first consult with the board on a scissor gate given that these gates have typically been discouraged in the past.
- In recent years, applicants across the district have described security issues and presented various solutions to the board. Some recent examples of board-approved security measures have been interior curtain-style gates in windows, a bollard, and reinforcements on a door.
- Many of the scissor gates in the sample photos provided by the applicant have not been reviewed or approved by the board. While this is not a reflection on the applicant, it highlights an opportunity for the board to think about the gates and provide guidance and direction for this and other future applicants moving forward.