



**CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS STAFF REPORT**

**TO:** HALRB  
**FROM:** Serena Bolliger, Historic Preservation Planner  
**DATE:** July 14, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** 243 North Glebe Road, CoA 21-13, Buckingham Village Historic District

**Background Information**

Designed by Henry Wright, Allan Kamstra, and Albert Lueders, Buckingham Shopping Center was built as a component of the planned Buckingham residential community between 1937 and 1946. The complex consists of numerous building at the intersection of North Glebe Road and North Pershing Drive. The commercial complex, evoking the idea of a traditional village center, was one of the final examples in the Washington, D.C. area of separating stores by a street, which was a popular design among planners in the 1920s. Buckingham Village became a Local Historic District (LHD) in 1993 and the properties are also contributing resources to the Buckingham Village National Register Historic District.

**Proposal**

The applicant proposes to install a neon sign which conforms with the *Buckingham Design Guidelines*. The new tenant would like to install a sign for their new business “Tobacco King and Vape” over a storefront where there currently is no sign installed.

**DRC Review**

The Design Review Committee (DRC) reviewed the application at its July 7, 2021, virtual meeting. The DRC members had no questions and placed this item on the consent agenda for the July 21, 2021, HALRB hearing.

**Discussion and Recommendation**

The Historic Preservation staff recommends approval of the subject application. The proposed sign’s materials, colors, and overall design are consistent with the other signs in the LHD. Further, staff finds that the proposal meets the intent of Chapter 11: Guidelines for Commercial Areas: Signage of the *Buckingham Design Guidelines*.