BAR POLICY for ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL of GAS METERS
Adopted OHAD: 4/4/18  PG: 2/28/18

Exterior alterations that are visible from a public way within the two local historic districts in Alexandria require a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Boards of Architectural Review (BAR). The BAR’s Design Guidelines require that all utility meters be “…located in the most inconspicuous location on a building.” The BAR strongly recommends that all gas meters now located in a basement remain in the basement wherever they comply with the building code and public safety is ensured. BAR staff may administratively approve meters and vents that comply with one of the following four location types set forth below. Properties that staff determines do not comply with one of the four types below will require approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness from the BAR at a public hearing.

TYPE I

Townhouse with no setback from the street-facing property line.

TYPE II

Meter must remain in the basement but a pressure relief vent may be located on the front or side façade. Paint valve and pipe to match adjacent wall color.

Meter may be located in the side yard behind the façade. Paint meter to match adjacent wall color and screen with landscaping or a fence.
**TYPE III**

Townhouse with a minimum setback of 15’ from the front property line.

**TYPE IV**

Townhouse with a front porch.

Meter may be located on the façade between porches. Paint meter to match the adjacent wall color.