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December 9, 2017

Ms. Mary Jo Galindo and Historic Landmark Commissioners City of Austin Post Office Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767-8865 Sent via E-mail

Re: Robert Mueller Airport Control Tower, Berkman Drive

Dear Chair Galindo and Commissioners:

Preservation Austin supports the initiation of local historic designation for the Robert Mueller Airport Control Tower located on Berkman Drive. The Control Tower is the last physical vestige of the Mueller Airport and retains a high degree of integrity. We are pleased that the City of Austin is taking the steps to protect this icon structure. Preservation Austin hopes the City will continue to designate more of their historic places, parks and structures.

The Tower and airport were designed by notable local architects, Fehr and Granger, and constructed between 1960 and 1961. The airport received a design award in 1959 from *Progressive Architecture* magazine. The Jury noted that the building was "an excellent solution in planning as well as design expression." The Control Tower still maintains its integrity and is a reminder of Mueller Airport and the growth and development of aviation in Austin.

For 64 years, Preservation Austin has been the leading protector of Austin's diverse cultural heritage through the preservation of historic treasures and places. As such, we believe that preservation of this unique resource celebrates our past, enhances livability and a sense of identity for our city.

Sincerely,

Ken Johnson

President, Preservation Austin