Allen, Amber

From: Margaret Herman

Sent: Friday, July 23, 2021 11:44 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: public comment re: 2502 Park View Drive

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Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

I'd like to submit a comment on the proposal to demolish 2502 Park View Drive being discussed at your July 26th meeting.

My name is Margaret Herman, and I work at a historic preservation agency in New York City (writing today for myself as an individual). I happen to be a former resident of Allandale - my family moved into a house a few streets over from 2502 Park View Drive in the 1980s when I was a young child, and my mother still resides there today.

As longtime residents of the neighborhood and for myself as an architectural historian, we both strongly oppose this proposal for demolition.

I recently became aware of the proposed National Register nomination for Allandale's Air-Conditioned Village, of which this property at 2502 Park View Drive is an essential piece. Referred to as the "Chrysler Air Temp Home," it retains a high degree of integrity to its period of significance during the air-conditioning tests, and its paneled facade and window pattern, its perforated brick screens, and overhanging roof line continue to express the story of Allandale's role in the history of mid-20th century HVAC engineering and modern architecture in the southwestern United States.

Local residents such as my mother are supportive of efforts to preserve the low-slung 1950s ranch homes of Allandale, many on large lots with mature trees, which contribute to its distinct sense of place and have made it such a beautiful community to raise their families. Now that the historical significance of 2502 Park View Drive and the Air-Conditioned Village project as a whole has come to light, there's a new level of pride in the neighborhood.

Please prevent this demolition from occurring. Surely there are preservation-minded ways to repair/rehab the house while retaining its historic fabric so that residents in the future can be reminded of the house's and the historic district's importance.

Best Regards, Margaret E. Herman, Ph.D.

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