From: noreply@coadigital.onbehalfof.austintexas.gov on behalf of City of Austin

<noreply@coadigital.onbehalfof.austintexas.gov>

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 9:55 AM

To: PAZ Preservation **Subject:** NO TO ITEM A1

This message is from Steven Hernandez.

I'm expressing my extreme disapproval of item A1 on the agenda for May 4th City Hall hearing. The demolition of Coconut Club, Neon Grotto, and Oilcan Harry's would damage the LGBTQ+ community's presence in Austin and remove vital spaces for community members to thrive. With plans to build living spaces above these areas, they are even more at risk at further plans to get rid of these businesses entirely just like every other part of Austin that's been "built on". Leave LGBTQ+ spaces ALONE, and move to another street. This is a targeted effort to diminish what little presence we have in this city and this just encourages more pollution, crime, and overcrowding in an urban area. Build spaces on top of bars on 6th street instead and leave LGBTQ+ people alone FOR ONCE.

From: Kim Borchert

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 9:57 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Kim Borchert. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th by email. You can contact me by phone at

As the parent of 5 Queer children, it is imperative to me that my children have places they can go and be safe and with their community. My oldest is a senior in high school and my youngest is still in elementary school; however knowing that there are spaces where Queer people can be together and not be afraid gives me peace of mind for them entering adulthood.

Destroying these buildings takes away not only important Austin history, but eliminates the future memories and safe spaces for generations of LGBTQIA+ people to come.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Kim Borchert

Kim Borchert (she/her),CD(DTI), CCE(BFW)
Owner, Birth and Postpartum Doula
Childbirth Mentor
Austin Doula Care
www.austindoulacare.com

From: Katie Martinez <

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:00 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is K'mae Martinez . I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by

There a few spaces in Texas that are safe for LGBTQIA+ individuals. This building means so much the community. We must preserve the safe Spaces for Texas citizens.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Big hugs, k'mae, CD, PCD (she/they) What's this? ::Birthkeeper. Wombtender. Doula:. birthmagickatx.com

From: Lindsay Campbell

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:07 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: May 4th meeting regarding 4th street

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Good morning,

My name is Lindsay Campbell, I am the founder and organizer of Austin, Tx's largest, active Lesbian (or women loving women) millennial meet up group. I would love an opportunity to speak at the upcoming 5/4 meeting.

While the L is quite often forgotten on fourth street, this is extremely heartbreaking that the little space that we do have that is safe for us is being considered for yet another apartment complex.

The skyline of Austin Texas continues to change, and it no longer resembles the iconic view that I grew up knowing.

There is so much space else where that can be considered.

Please!

Thank you for your time,

Lindsay Campbell

From:

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:11 AM

To:

PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Earlest Small. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th RECORDED BY EMAIL. You can reach me by email at

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Earlest Small

Sent from my iPhone

From: noreply@coadigital.onbehalfof.austintexas.gov on behalf of City of Austin

<noreply@coadigital.onbehalfof.austintexas.gov>

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:11 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: 4th Street

This message is from Ashley Nelson.

Hello,

I'm not sure if this is the right place to email but I've heard there are talks of demolition of parts of 4th street for another high rise. That area has been a safe haven for so many in the LGBTQIA+ community in Austin and I don't think it's sending a great message to tear down beloved bars/clubs for another high rise, regardless of if coconut club will be back once it's done. We do need housing down here, but there has to be some other solution. I know this email might not do anything, but I just hope Austin knows what they will lose within that community if they decide to go through with this build.

Thank you, Ashley

From: Rowan Elizabeth

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:15 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Rowan Pruitt and I am an Austin Native. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th RECORDED BY EMAIL. You can reach me by phone at

We need to protect historical queer spaces at all costs across Texas. Queer people and our families are being politically and physically attacked and queer spaces need to stand strong against this. Getting rid of queer spaces such as Coconut Club, and Neon Grotto, sends a clear message that you don't care about LGBTQ people in this face of capitalism or the rise of anti-gay, anti-trans rhetoric around the country. Meanwhile, there is a multitude of high rise condominiums that sit empty in Austin because people, let alone Austin natives, can't afford to live there. You have the opportunity to listen to the community and to save face with them. Getting rid of these spaces will go a long way to get rid of people who want to be in Austin. These queer spaces have existed for generations and erasing that erases part of Austin culture.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Thank you, Rowan Pruitt

From: Elizabeth Saenz

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:16 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Elizabeth Saenz. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by this email. You can reach me by phone at

This street of bars is a safe space to the LGBTQQIA+ community. Demolishing for yet another condo for the rich community and investors is truly disgusting and cruel to the queer community as well as other marginalized communities. There are enough condos for weathly individuals in Texas. This developer can move to the domain or to west lake if they need somewhere to build. Stop harming marginalized communities. This is how you ruin a city.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Thank you!

Elizabeth Saenz

Sent from my iPhone

From: Rachel Holderbach

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:17 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission, My name is Sid Holderbach. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca. I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th RECORDED BY EMAIL. You can reach me by phone at

I moved here five years ago, primarily because I felt safe being a loud and proud queer person in the streets of Austin. There were places for me to go and feel safe, places to feel supported, places of queer creativity and community. To tear down these particular queer spaces would be a punch in the gut and another reminder that Texas is not as hospitable of a place as I thought for people like me.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: noreply@coadigital.onbehalfof.austintexas.gov on behalf of City of Austin

<noreply@coadigital.onbehalfof.austintexas.gov>

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:31 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: Protect 4th Street + the LGBT community!

This message is from Erin Mitchell.

Stop the planned demolition on 4th street and permanently protect safe LGBTQIA+ community spaces.

For decades, this block has been a vital part of the Austin LGBTQ+ community's culture, welcoming ALL with open arms regardless of who they are. The vibrancy, energy, safety, and comfort of our community needs to be protected at all costs to allow those in the LGBTQ+ community to find themselves, find their people, and meet others they know will support them in an environment that has zero tolerance for hate. That type of environment does not exist in many straight bars throughout the city. The destruction of these properties will only lead to a snowball effect of the other LGBTQ+ bars on 4th St. being pushed out by other greedy developers until nothing remains. Erasure of the LGBTQ+ community and our culture will not be tolerated, and we will fight to the end to preserve it.

With only 6 LGBTQ+ bars spanning the block and with a beautiful rainbow sidewalk to show support for our community, the destruction of almost half of these bars unfairly targets, crowds, and pushes our marginalized community out of our space, displaces LGBTQ+ workers, bartenders, and entertainers from their jobs, and overall intrudes on a historic district that Hanover Co. has absolutely no business infiltrating. Ask yourself, why isn't Hanover Co. targeting a location of one of the hundreds of non-LGBTQ+ bars in Austin instead...? the building of more luxury condos only helps the rich and Hanover Co. make an extra buck while continuing to destroy the culture of Austin we all know and love. KEEP AUSTIN WEIRD!

From: Dany Ishmael

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:32 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Dany Ishmael. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th by email. You can reach me by phone at

I moved to Austin in 2011 from a small town in southeast Texas on the night of my high school graduation. I attended the ceremony, said my goodbyes, and drove 6 hours to Austin. I slept in my car, parked in the parking lot of an apartment complex. The next morning, I was given my keys and officially on my own.

I am queer. I've known I was queer since I was 11 years old; and thus, I felt completely and hopelessly isolated from my friends, family, and community since 11 years old. I would dream of moving to Austin, lauded for its queer spaces and tolerance in the middle of this conservative state. And for the first time at 18 years old, I felt safe in my home. I felt remarkably unnoticeable. I felt like I belonged.

I am so deeply saddened that this might be taken away from me just 10 years later. I've established a life here surrounded by people that not only tolerate, but amplify and lift up my queerness. The loss of these queer spaces would be devastating to our community, and to other teenage queer people that are just looking for a little safety in all the politicization of our existence. In all the attacks on our human rights perpetuated by our government. Please value the queer community as much as it values this city.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: noreply@coadigital.onbehalfof.austintexas.gov on behalf of City of Austin

<noreply@coadigital.onbehalfof.austintexas.gov>

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:35 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: Protect 4th Street + the LGBT community!

This message is from Erin Mitchell.

- Please record my comment via email and relay it to the HLC during the May 4th meeting. -

Stop the planned demolition on 4th street and permanently protect safe LGBTQIA+ community spaces.

For decades, this block has been a vital part of the Austin LGBTQ+ community's culture, welcoming ALL with open arms regardless of who they are. The vibrancy, energy, safety, and comfort of our community needs to be protected at all costs to allow those in the LGBTQ+ community to find themselves, find their people, and meet others they know will support them in an environment that has zero tolerance for hate. That type of environment does not exist in many straight bars throughout the city. The destruction of these properties will only lead to a snowball effect of the other LGBTQ+ bars on 4th St. being pushed out by other greedy developers until nothing remains. Erasure of the LGBTQ+ community and our culture will not be tolerated, and we will fight to the end to preserve it.

With only 6 LGBTQ+ bars spanning the block and with a beautiful rainbow sidewalk to show support for our community, the destruction of almost half of these bars unfairly targets, crowds, and pushes our marginalized community out of our space, displaces LGBTQ+ workers, bartenders, and entertainers from their jobs, and overall intrudes on a historic district that Hanover Co. has absolutely no business infiltrating. Ask yourself, why isn't Hanover Co. targeting a location of one of the hundreds of non-LGBTQ+ bars in Austin instead...? the building of more luxury condos only helps the rich and Hanover Co. make an extra buck while continuing to destroy the culture of Austin we all know and love. KEEP AUSTIN WEIRD!

From: Gabby B

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:35 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Gabby Battaglia. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by phone at

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: Rachel Mitrano

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:35 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Rachel Mitrano. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by phone at

By removing these institutions, you're removing what makes Austin a desirable place to live. A place where people can feel accepted being themselves and be who they truly are without judgement. A place that people can go out to meet others like themselves and build a community. No one is going to move to Austin if there isn't anything fun to do anymore, or if there aren't spaces for them to feel at home. Places on Rainey street are already being demolished, soon all Austin will be is apartments and condos that house sad people because you've removed the joy and uniqueness of this city. Instead of removing these landmarks, why not invest in small businesses that expand beyond the city center so that we can expand this city while keeping the establishments that already exist?!

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: Chris Young

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:37 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is {INSERT FIRST AND LAST NAME}. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th {IN PERSON, VIA PHONE, OR RECORDED BY EMAIL}. You can reach me by phone at {YOUR PHONE NUMBER} and by email at {YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS}.

{DELETE THIS IF NOT USING {INSERT RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL BODY TEXT - PERSONAL STORIES, BEING QUEER, TEXAS/GOV. ABBOTT ATTACKING QUEER RIGHTS, ETC}}

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: Sarah Barkan

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:38 AM

To: PAZ Preservation **Subject:** Save 4th Street

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello,

I have lived in Austin my entire life and it has been extremely hard to watch iconic places that mean so much to me and others be torn down for sky rises and condos. It is hard to comprehend how people want to move here because they like the Austin vibe, but to make room for them we destroy what makes Austin Austin. We make the cost of living here so expensive that it drives out the musicians that once made this city the live music capital of the world.

Please please please do not let developers come in and tear down 4th street. Many of these bars are much needed safe and inclusive spaces that were once missing from Austin's nightlife. We cannot do this to those communities.

Thanks, Sarah Barkan

From: mpiem280

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 10:43 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Melissa Piemontese. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th. You can reach me by phone at



From: Carolyn Underhill

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 11:11 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Carolyn Underhill. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th. You can reach me by email at

These establishments are safe spaces for the LGBTQ+ community and as a person of this community, we need these places! Destroying this section of the city is erasing LGBTQ+ culture and must be stopped!

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Thank you,

Carolyn Underhill

From: Erin Nance

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 11:11 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Erin Nance. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th VIA PHONE, OR RECORDED BY EMAIL. You can reach me by phone at

I am a bi sexual woman and this part of the city has meant so much to me. It's where I met my boyfriend and many friends. It is wrong that nearly every other large city has a designated historical LGBTQIA+ district and we don't. Being on the rise, Austin's large and substantial LGBTQIA+ community deserves representation. Please don't take away a huge part of the community's history in Austin.

Please respond ASAP with the next steps and additional information.

From:

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 11:12 AM

To:

PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Armando Sanchez. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th RECORDED BY EMAIL. You can reach me by phone at

I'm a gay man who has called Austin home for 10 years of my life. For me and many others, the LGBTQ+ spaces in the 4th street area are a source of community, entertainment, connection, safety, and empowerment. The demolition of these spaces isn't just the destruction of structures; it's an act of violence against and a disregard of the LGBTQ+ community in and around Austin, which has never experienced peace or inclusion in Texas. I implore you, please do not take away our community spaces. Do not become another one of our aggressors.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

With pride,
Armando Sanchez

Sent from my iPhone

From: Austin R Scott

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 11:15 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: Item A1 / May 4th City Hall Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello,

I would like to express my disapproval of item A1 on the agenda for the May 4th City Hall hearing. The demolition of Coconut Club, Neon Grotto and Oilcan Harry's would damage the LGBTQ+ community's presence in Austin and remove vital spaces for community members to thrive. These businesses provide safe spaces for many who lack resources and support networks. They provide a place for marginalized communities to gather in a safe and welcoming environment without fear of physical, psychological or emotional harm. The city will continue to grow and development is inevitable, but this would deal a traumatic blow to the community and would cause reputational damage to the city, which has long been viewed as a champion of LGBTQ+ rights and advocacy in a state where political leadership is actively seeking to institutionalize homophobia and discriminate against people who want nothing more than to be themselves and raise families just like any other Texan. Please consider voting against this item.

Thank you, Austin Scott

From: Natalie Myers

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 11:19 AM

To: PAZ Preservation **Subject:** Oppose Item A1

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

To whom it may concern,

I am reaching out to express my opposition to Item A1, or in other words the demolition of LGBT spaces in favor of a generic high rise.

I've lived in Austin now for almost 10 years and have spent plenty of time in the warehouse district, mostly at Oilcan Harry's. This space means more the LGBTQ community than it could ever mean to millionaires who don't even live in Austin.

Please protect and support your local LGBTQ community. Please reconsider.

Thanks,

From: Jessica Blaylock

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 11:25 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: Item A1 Constituent Opinion

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

To whom it may concern,

I am strongly against demolishing the 4th street district for development and would like my comments to be considered since I cannot make the vote. This is a home to so many people that this cannot happen. My name and email are provided here. Please vote on Item A1 in favor of keeping the district in place and not removing our LGBTQIA+ community from downtown.

Thank you, Jessica Blaylock

From: Stephanie Sammons

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 11:41 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Stephanie Sammons. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by phone at

With the state government attacking trans people left and right, queer spaces are more important than ever in our city. I've never seen queerness more celebrated in this city than at some of the events on 4th Street. Moving Oil Can Harry's (even temporarily) and completely tearing down Coconut Club would be devastating to the LGBTQ+ community of Austin. Please do the right thing, and don't tear down our pride district.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: Taylor Love

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 11:53 AM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Taylor Love. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th RECORDED BY EMAIL. You can reach me by phone at

I have been a member of the LGBTQIA+ community in Austin for over a decade. I'm appalled at the constant chipping away of marginalized communities by developers that literally come through and tear down these communities simply to make a profit. Money is not what makes our city special, it's the people that make up the city that make it vibrant and unique. Marginalized communities are the ones keeping this city running. We are the artists that make this the live music Capital of the world. We are the service industry people making and serving your food. We are the drivers that transport you too and fro. We are what makes this city! We are being pushed further and further outside of this city and continue to have less and less spaces we can call our own. We love and serve this city so don't we deserve to have our own part of it? You have the power to stop this from happening. You can designate this as a historic district to keep the greedy hands of developers out. You can send a message to the community that you serve that you value them and want them to continue to be a part of the fabric of Austin. Please use your power for the good of the citizens of this city and not to line the pockets of the wealthy.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Thank you,

Taylor Love

From: Wil Wever

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 12:07 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Wilbert Wever. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th by email. You can reach me by phone at

Having an LGBTQ district and safe space for our community is essential for survival. Visibility and seeing that they are accepted is what our youth needs so see. Suicide rates are highest among young people who do not feel accepted and do not see themselves loved and supported in a community.

We know from history that luxury apartment homes do not mix in with nightlife and saying there will be compromise we all know is not true and it will just result in new residents complaining about their neighbors until they are forced out completely.

Texas and the governor have already been attacking the queer population, and what we don't need is to see our few safe spaces taken away from us completely.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Sincerely

Wilbert Wever

From: Sarah Davis

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 12:09 PM

To: PAZ Preservation **Subject:** May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th.

The decision to remove Coconut Club and Neon Grotto that have been made a safe, open, and publicly accepting space for the LGBTQ community of Austin is absolutely insane, unjust, and unwelcome. The replacement of these spaces is not a necessary addition to Austin and is fixing ZERO current issues.

The demolition of these businesses is not welcome and will put many LGBTQ members at risk of their income and ability to build community in a safe environment.

Regards,

Sarah Davis

From: Alison Sharma

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 12:18 PM

To: PAZ Preservation **Subject:** Opposition to item A1

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission

As a member of Austin's LGBT community, I am writing to tell you that item A1 - the demolition of 4th street, in particular Coconut Club, is unacceptable and damaging to our queer population. Belonging to a minority group means these venues are not just bars to us. They have historically served as safe spaces from discrimination, hate and shaming-sometimes for people who have had no other emotional support system. On 4th street people can express themselves authentically, explore their identity, build friendships, and potentially find a romantic partner. These are privileges that heterosexual individuals may take for granted given that every other space is hetero-centric.

Because Austin already has limited LGBT spaces, these bars are of heightened significance and really cater to the heart of the community. I am absolutely against the demolition of 4th street and can guarantee that Austin's queers and allies will continue to speak up and protest if need be.

Regards Alison

From: Gaven Ludington

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 12:57 PM

To: PAZ Preservation **Subject:** 4th Street Demolition

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hi y'all,

My name is Gaven Ludington, and I just moved here from small town Canyon TX. I'm so excited to finally be in Austin!! This place really does feel like home and I've only been here a few months.

When I saw that the city was demolishing 4th street, it made me so sad: ((I literally just moved here and I might not even get to experience one of the oldest gay bars still standing in the city?? I'm so angry and upset that the city would rather put up another dull high-rise than embrace the queer culture that literally built this city and made it what it is. PLEASE DON'T DO THIS!!! Queer culture is so sparse in this state, and we need all of the safe spaces we can get. Especially if you want more people to want to live here!!

Again, please reconsider this decision. Demolishing this area would be a massive mistake that I know you will all regret.

With love and hope, Gaven Ludington

From: Katherine Holmes

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 1:18 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: STOP the developers planning to tear down the LGBTQ Bars on 4th street

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

To whom it may concern,

Many people of Austin (and its many visitors) consider these bars on 4th street to be a safe and inclusive space- one that did not always exist for the LGBT community in Austin. It is imperative that your group preserves this area and stops the developers who aim to tear it down and build another high rise. The thought that these cultural spaces would be torn down due to corporate greed is despicable, and I urge you to protect the area at all costs. The LGBTQ community is a key part of what makes Austin so spectacular, it would be devastating to show such disrespect by allowing this demolition to take place.

Thank you for your time, Katherine Holmes

From: Emily Gilardi

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 1:27 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is {Emily Gilardi}. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May RECORDED BY EMAIL. You can reach me by phone at

As a queer Austinite and Texan the spaces on 4th street have been a home, haven and safe space for our community to gather. Elimination of these spaces will contribute to add to the discriminatory policies of state and further disenfranchise us for the sake of bland and beige profit.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 1:40 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello Historic Landmark Commission,

Im Carlos Villapudua and I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th. You can reach me by phone at

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Tyler McElhinney

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 1:46 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Jason McElhinney. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by phone at

We are seeing a wave of political attacks on the LGBTQ+ Community and on LGBTQ+ youth. This directly leads to severe mental health issues in youth which contributes to higher rates of suicides. It also gives permission to bad actors to engage in violence against LGBTQ+ individuals. By removing LGBTQ+ safe spaces, it robs the community of organizing spaces to fight back against these attacks as well erases any positive examples of LGBTQ+ adults that younger generations can look to for a sense of hope and understanding.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Jason McElhinney

From: lan Callahan

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 1:54 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Ian Callahan. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th RECORDED BY EMAIL. You can reach me by phone at

Before I share my experience I want you to think about one thing: from an image perspective, how will it look that Austin — a city that is supposedly welcoming to the LGBTQIA2S+ community — is tearing down historic queer spaces that are more than just bars, but rather serve as cultural centers, when Austin has no formal LGBT center as it is AND WHILE our governor decides to enact laws that are in flagrant violation of the human rights of its LGBTQIA2S+ citizens? I'm sure a decision could be reached wherein Hanover could #build its apartments elsewhere...

As Austin's own quality of life study states (https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=368782), "we need to apply equity to the broad vision and goals we have for this city"... in the past year population growth has increased 50% while population of other cities like NYC has declined over 300%. We have a fantastic opportunity here — to drive people to Austin and show them how welcoming we are to everyone. But if we want to market ourselves as welcoming we ought to BE welcoming. If we want to spur positive economic activity, it should be for ALL Austinites. Period.

The same study also cites "the Williams Institute estimates that the Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown metropolitan area has the 3rd largest percentage of LGBT people (relative to the overall population size of the metro area) in the country after the San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley and Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro metropolitan areas." This same community — especially those of us who are queer POC and trans — is adversely affected by homelessness at rates that are disproportionate compared to the rest of the population.

Not only does this proposed demolition serve to remove critical queer safe spaces, but it also serves to further the gentrification that Austin has been seeing in recent years, which will only compound the housing affordability crisis, in Austin, and thus, enhance disparate treatment of already oppressed and marginalized people.

This is not the time or the way to create more housing in Austin, period. When I first moved here to Austin just eight months ago from Florida, one of the first things I did was go to OCH, Rain, and Highland with a friend, because I was searching for community and connection. Please, do not take our safe spaces away. Build elsewhere if need be, but not on 4th.

Sincerely,

Ian Callahan

Sent from my iPhone

From: Madison DeLuca

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 1:57 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: Item A1

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

To whom it may concern,

I am reaching out in opposition to the proposed redevelopment of the 4th Street area of Austin, which would include eliminating or significantly changing LGBTQ+ bars such as Oilcan Harry's, Coconut Club, and Neon Grotto. This area has strong cultural significance for the LGBTQ+ community and should receive historic zoning.

Because the LGBTQ+ community has been subject to (what has now been determined <u>unconstitutional</u>) criminalization, the history of LGBTQ+ meeting spots is less robust than that of other groups. This should not be a deterrent to preservation, but rather, a signal that preservation is particularly necessary for this community to hold on to the few historic spaces it does have. Additionally, these properties have a high degree of integrity.

Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (City of Austin Land Development Code (Section 25-2-352)). The property meets multiple criteria.

- 1. This area has significant community value. The properties possess a unique location on 4th Street, physical characteristics, and significant features that contribute to the character, image, and cultural identity of the Austin community. The character, image, and cultural identity of Austin is not the luxury high-rises that this development would produce.
- 2. Historical association. The property has long-standing significant associations with LGBTQ+ persons, groups, institutions, businesses, and events of historic importance which contributed significantly to the ongoing history of the city, state, and nation's growing celebration of the LGBTQ+ community. The <u>Austin Chronicle</u> notes that "Oilcan Harry's is Austin's oldest continually running gay bar, in the heart of the city's closest thing to a gayborhood, otherwise known as Fourth Street."
- 3. Landscape Feature. The property is a significant designed landscape feature with cultural and historical value to the city.

Thank you for reading. Please act to preserve LGBTQ+ gathering spaces as well as the overall culture of Austin.

Best,

Madison DeLuca

__

Madison DeLuca

J.D. Candidate 2024

University of Texas School of Law

Pronouns: she/her

From: Grecia Chapa

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 2:01 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Grecia Chapa. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by phone at

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: Nicole Aragon

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 2:01 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Nicole Aragon. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by phone at

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: Mariana Lee

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 2:08 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Mariana Lee Parish-Butler. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the fourth Street block between Colorado and LaVaca.

I am strongly against item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th, recorded via email. You can reach me by phone at if needed.

That small section of fourth street clubs are some of the most beautiful, vibrant places in this city. That single block is incredibly important to me and the queer community in Austin. Destroying it not only sends the message that marginalized communities are not valued at all in this city, but it also it runs the risk of displacing many queer people who need a safe space to get away.

Let's imagine that the clubs are demolished. I'm guessing that the people who live in the condo that's built would file noise complaints against rain on 4th and Oilcan Harry's (if they chose to move back into the new building). That would negatively impact both the residents of the building as well as the clubs and the people who attend them. Since rain on 4th is planning to stay and Oilcan Harry's may be as well, the street will still be filled with queer people and it needs to be a safe space for us. The majority of the new residents of the building would most likely not be queer and they may even be homophobic. We are so used to being on guard in our daily lives because we don't know who may or may not wish us harm based on our sexuality. We don't want to have to be worrying about that in our safe space when we're trying to have a fun night of partying!

I have lived in this city for my whole life and my heart has been breaking more and more every year as I see marginalized communities being hurt by the heartless gentrification. As long as I can remember, people have said that they like Austin because it's weird and doesn't stick to the norm. Well that's changing. The culture and magic that we have always loved is being stripped away as you push black, brown, queer, and other marginalized people out. If y'all really love how "weird" Austin was then stop taking away the parts that give it depth.

I know that you may just be getting caught up in the admittedly exciting growth and possibilities that the future holds, but please, slow down. Acknowledge the damage that you are doing. Look it in the face and choose if you want to continue. I know that there are people who have the power to stop this and other things like it from happening. You just have to make that choice. I don't know your position or what's at stake for you, but I imagine it might be a difficult choice to say no to the demolition, and I sympathize with you.

I certainly can't mind control you into doing what I want, but please, at the very least, try to put yourselves in my shoes. Imagine the pain and loss that I feel whenever I allow myself to think about my community members who have lived here for their whole lives, some for generations, who have now been financially edged out. Imagine the feeling of the rug being pulled out from under me as I see the amazing spaces that have helped me through so much, being torn away. This place is my childhood, it is my life. I can move away, but I'm choosing to stay and fight for Austin as long as I can. I care so deeply for this city and I just wish you could see it through my eyes. Change is good, but I think that the wrong things are being changed now.

Thank you for your time. I hope you have the day you deserve, Mariana Lee

From: Mary Bokenkamp

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 2:16 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Mary Bokenkamp and I am a resident of Austin, TX. I am a proud officer in the US Navy currently completing my general surgery residency training at Dell Medical School at the University of Texas at Austin. This city is special to me and has become my home. Because of my strong feelings about this special place, I am reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th RECORDED BY EMAIL. You can reach me by phone at

Besides being a US Navy officer and physician, I also am a queer identifying female and this space is a safe space that has been a part of Austin and has made Austin what it is. Demolishing these spaces will take away what makes Austin special, inclusive, and eclectic. This space is for community, acceptance, love, and freedom without judgement. I personally have spent many weekends in these places and it would break my heart for them to be taken away. This will not be just removing and demolishing buildings. It will be demolishing safe spaces for those that have been deprived of them for so long. Money is important and so are economics but at what expense are we willing to monetize our city? The expense of turning our city into every other traditional city? That costs the magic and the allure. Please reconsider. For the outsiders that finally have safety and acceptance. Thank you for your consideration.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information. I would be more than happy to speak with anyone further on this matter.

Thank you.

Mary Bokenkamp, MD

LT, MC, USN
PGY-4 General Surgery Resident
Dell Medical School | The University of Texas at Austin
Research Fellow, Division of Trauma, Emergency Surgery & Surgical Critical Care
Massachusetts General Hospital | Harvard Medical School

From: Tanya Ubeda

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 2:52 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Tanya Ubeda. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th in person. You can reach me by phone at

Since moving to Austin, I have found community and friendships in many places, but few are as special as the queer nightlife spaces on 4th street. These venues host a variety of events that bring together folks to celebrate life and love. I have seen incredible performance art in these venues. These events are crucial to helping the Austin queer community thrive. There are very few spaces in this city that do that, and this demolition will be tearing down 3 very important spaces that help queer Austin folks feel safe and seen.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

--

With gratitude,

Tanya Ubeda

From: Tracy Johnson

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 2:57 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Tracy Johnson. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by phone at

Queer spaces DESERVE to be protected. Austin has been a safe space for queer folks in Texas for years. DO NOT remove this protection!!

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Tracy

Tracy

From: Jaymi Jaworoski

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 3:01 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Jaymi Jaworoski. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by phone at

Coconut Club is an essential part of our LGBTQ culture. This would contribute to further suppression of our rights.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: Frances Cava Humphrey

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 3:03 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Frances. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded via email. You can reach me by phone at

As a member of the Queer community and as a Person of Color, I continue to watch the erasure of marginalized communities across the country. 4th Street is a thriving community and space that is safe for the Queer people to gather and celebrate our identities. A move towards demolition is an act of hate and erasure of our community in favor of PROFIT. As Texans, and as Austinites, we've seen enough of the anti-people policies put in place by Gov. Abbott. Please don't continue that legacy here in Austin. Please stand with the Queer community to ensure Austin remains the progressive and safe space for EVERYONE.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: Rachel Glasser

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 3:07 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Rachel Glasser. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th, recorded by email. You can reach me by phone at

The gay bars on 4th are extremely important to thousands of LGBTQ community members in Austin. This is where we gather to celebrate and in the past, gay bars were the ONLY places where we could somewhat safely gather like this. To even consider erasing this history is honestly appalling and goes against everything that the city of Austin claims to stand for. Again and again the common citizens of Austin are being shown that we don't matter as more high rises and condos are built, pushing out the people who have been living here for generations in favor of those who are looking to make a profit off of Austin's growth. It's amazing to have a city that is growing and that so many people want to move to but it's heading in a very dangerous direction. The powers that be in Austin need to make a stand and put some actions behind the rainbow flags, not to mention the Black Lives Matter crosswalk. If our gay district gets demolished, it is going to tarnish Austin's name and reputation and prove that this is yet another place in Texas that chooses to be inhospitable to LGBTQ people.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Thank you, Rachel

From: Louis Harvey

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 3:11 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: Warehouse district building concerns

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hi -

Can we not build another high rise luxury residential or commercial building in Austin and protect the integrity of certain areas that are a culturally necessity to its residents? We need to ask ourselves what we want Austin to be? And if that's a cultural shell of what we once were than the decision makers need to get the input of its residents before it builds yet ANOTHER freaking sky scrapper, sacrificing some of the only unique institutions we have left.

It's already frustrating that our skyline is looking increasing like Miami Florida - and I have to ask, who is this benefiting?

The quality of music venues in Austin has gone way down because of noise complaints because of increased residential buildings in those areas. Stubbs is half the venue it once was and is no longer one of the best music venues in the country. What is next?

I am AGAINST construction of a building especially on 4th street

Happy to speak on it further in a public forum

Best,

Louis Harvey (resident since 1990)

From: Aaron Kennard

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 3:13 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Aaron Kennard. As a lifelong Texan, and resident of Austin I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email.

Allowing queer spaces in Austin to be demolished would be just disgusting. LGBTQ people in Texas are being attacked left and right, by the legislature and by hateful ignorant people. Taking away spaces that allow us to feel safe would just make it clear that we are not welcome in Texas. Do you want that? Is that. the message you want to send? I don't think it is. Vote against item A1, stop this insanity. Every other major US city has an LGBTQ district that is protected from this kind of stupidity, but alas Austin does not. Do the right thing.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

From: Rhys Tucker

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 3:53 PM

To: PAZ Preservation **Subject:** Against Item A1

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Rhys Tucker. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by email at

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Best,

Rhys

From: Nancy Gonzalez <

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 3:54 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Nancy Gonzalez. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th via phone or email. You can reach me by phone at

I'm extremely disheartened at how quick this city is willing to destroy communities where people feel safe to be themselves. Demolishing these thriving businesses on 4th street feels like an attack on the LGBTQ+ community. Coconut Club, Neon Grotto and Oil Can Harry's deserve to stay.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

All the best, Nancy Gonzalez

Sent from my iPhone

From: julia streller

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 3:57 PM

To: PAZ Preservation

Subject: URGENT: Public Comment for May 4th Hearing

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Historic Landmark Commission,

My name is Julia Streller. I'm reaching out in response to The Hanover Co's demolition request of the 4th street block between Colorado and Lavaca.

I am STRONGLY AGAINST Item A1 and want my comment made public on May 4th recorded by email. You can reach me by phone at

I'm an LGBTQ ally and believe these are historic and iconic pillars of the Austin community.

Please respond as soon as possible with the next steps and additional information.

Sincerely,

Julia Streller

From: Cole Hubbard

Sent: Friday, April 15, 2022 3:58 PM

To: PAZ Preservation **Subject:** May 4th Agenda

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello there,

I am unable to make it to the public hearing on May 4th but I would like to leave a comment via email. I would like to speak to item 1A. I am STRONGLY against the demolition of the 4th Street area for yet more condos. More than a housing crisis, Austin is facing a severe identity crisis and long has. Every corner of cultural value is being sold to the highest bidder. As a gay resident of Austin, I strongly object to a developer coming through and demolishing the tiny corner of the city that is designated the gay-borhood. If this is allowed to proceed, then it is truly insult to injury that the city installed those rainbow crosswalks in that area when they are demolishing the only gay district in the city. Please have some common sense and vote to stop this development from happening!

Cole Hubbard,

Please let me know if I need to add anything else.

Thank you.