From: Lisa Gilbert
To: Collins, Kimberly

Subject: Fwd: Historic Zoning for 2002 Scenic Drive C14H-2022-0099

Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 9:53:19 AM

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Hi Kimberly-

Can you please add this letter in favor of historic preservation into the back up information for the City Council Meeting on 10/27, Item 46-C141H-2022-0099 - Delisle House? Thank you for your help.

Lisa

Lisa Gilbert

Begin forwarded message:

From: <

Subject: FW: Historic Zoning for 2002 Scenic Drive C14H-2022-0099

Date: September 26, 2022 at 5:43:18 PM CDT

To: "'Lisa Gilbert'" >
Cc: "'Phil Gilbert'" |
Reply-To: <

Thanks for the case number

Derek Barcinski ATLANTIS ARCHITECTS 4117 Guadalupe Street Austin Texas 78751 512 452 - 7800

From:	
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2022 5:41 PM	
То:	

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Dear Chairperson Shaw and Fellow Commissioners:

Subject: Historic Zoning for 2002 Scenic Drive

I am writing in favor of Historic Zoning designation for 2002 Scenic Drive.

This building and its grounds are well worn but intact examples of Austin's past that cannot be replicated or understood if the original buildings are demolished. We cannot learn from the past if it is removed.

Preservation of the past is part of what keeps Austin weird. We equally value the newest buildings and the oldest. If we choose to only value the new, we lose some of our collective values. The public review process embodied by this Commission gives the commissioners the opportunity to respect the values of community which respecting the rights of the individual.

In the case of 2002 Scenic, rehabilitation and reuse under the requirements of Historic Zoning designation becomes a win-win for owner and city alike. The resistance to rehabilitation and reuse do not make sense to me as an architect who has completed numerous remodels and adaptations of historical structures and grounds.

- Demolition by neglect has never been allowed in Austin. To allow demolition sets a precedent which will allow any future speculator to throw away heritage and character.
- Architects strive and dream of creating iconic and memorable architecture and the existing building certainly embodies both. Our city has the opportunity to protect, save and repurpose memory and beauty in

- situ rather than in a photobook or museum. Documentation of Lost Austin is a tragic outcome when the original artifact could remain.
- 3. Construction (new or remodel) is expensive and building on this lot with its slope, soils and setbacks is extremely expensive. An engineer's letter advocating a cheaper way to build is not an aspiration for a City like Austin. Certainly, the owners of this lot understand the cost of developing such an important site and citing savings as design goal seems disingenuous.
- 4. Preserving the site configuration, the landscape and the stonework of 2002 Scenic is certainly something that this talented architect/owner team is capable of doing. Their work is well recognized, and their talent only limited by their charge from owners. Existing nonbearing stonework could be preserved and remain non-bearing. Failing structure can easily be supplemented with additional structure. Leaks and mold damage can be repaired.
- 5. There is a long-standing track record in Texas of preserving hand-crafted and vernacular works by the CCC and others. These are preserved as they represent a respect and admiration for local artisans and local construction materials in Texas buildings. The work of the CCC is cherished around our state, not because the designer was recognizable, but because the human care and craft was admirable. This home should protected without concern for the deemed recognizability of the architect(s)

In the case of 2002 Scenic, preservation and Historic Zoning seems the balance of public and private values. Thank you for considering this opinion.

Derek Barcinski ATLANTIS ARCHITECTS 4117 Guadalupe Street Austin Texas 78751 512 452 - 7800

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