



**National Trust for  
Historic Preservation**  
*Save the past. Enrich the future.*

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HPD

October 25, 2022

Mayor Steve Adler  
Austin City Council  
301 W 2nd St.  
Austin, TX 78701

**Re: Historic Designation of 2002 Scenic Drive**

Dear Mr. Adler,

The National Trust for Historic Preservation (“National Trust”) would like to express our support for the historic designation of 2002 Scenic Drive. The National Trust is a private nonprofit organization chartered by Congress in 1949 to “facilitate public participation” in the preservation of our nation's heritage, and to further the historic preservation policy of the United States. 54 U.S.C. § 312102. With more than one million members and supporters around the country, the National Trust works to protect significant places representing our diverse cultural experience by taking direct action and inspiring broad public support.

Our organization was made aware of the proposal to demolish 2002 Scenic Drive by concerned citizens of Austin, and we have also been in contact with Preservation Austin concerning this issue. Based on our review of the record, we support the Historic Landmark Commission’s unanimous recommendation that 2002 Scenic Drive meets the criteria established in Austin’s Code of Ordinances § 25-2-352. 2002 Scenic Drive is nearly 100 years old and an excellent example of local Austin vernacular design and craftsmanship: it is very obviously a historic building per Austin’s ordinances.

The National Trust supports the sound interpretation and enforcement of historic preservation ordinances, and a key aspect of the effective application of ordinances is that decisionmakers follow the criteria established in the ordinance or the guidelines interpreting the ordinance. We are concerned that Austin’s Planning Commission’s denial of this property’s historic status is not consistent with the evaluative criteria established in Austin’s ordinances. We encourage the City of Austin ensure the preservation of 2002 Scenic Drive by supporting the unanimous recommendation of the Historic Landmark Commission and designating the building as historic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Cody".

Chris Cody  
Associate General Counsel

