

TO: Planning Commission, Mayor, and Council Members

FROM: Historic Landmark Commission

DATE: November 1, 2023

SUBJECT: HOME Amendments

We, the Historic Landmark Commission, are supportive of badly needed reforms to the existing code. However, we are gravely concerned for the potential serious and unintended consequences that the amendments, as proposed, will have on future historic landmarks and the existing fabric of our city. We feel that a meaningful preservation incentive within the HOME amendments would not only align with their stated goals but would further them.

Existing housing is more affordable than new construction, their sequestered carbon is much more useful as housing than as landfill, and the structures that made Austin what it is today deserve a place within the increased density needed to facilitate a more affordable and sustainable future.

Approved November 1, 2023 – 10-0