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December 12, 2023

RE: Deep Eddy Cabaret Historic Landmark Designation

Dear Chair Heimsath, Vice Chair Featherston, and Members of the Historic Landmark Commission,

[Preservation Austin](#) exists to empower Austinites to shape a more inclusive, resilient, and meaningful community culture through preservation. We write to you today in support of the historic zoning application for Deep Eddy Cabaret for its Historical Associations, Architecture, and Community Value. Our support for this application is in alignment with our organization's Legacy Business [Advocacy Priority](#).

Located on Lake Austin Boulevard, the building that houses Deep Eddy Cabaret was originally associated with the Johnson's, a family of early Austin settlers and landowners who were involved in the development of Deep Eddy Pool. Around 1915, the limestone building was constructed on the site, which the Johnson's operated as a grocery/bait and tackle shop called Deep Eddy Grocery for over 35 years. It was purchased in 1951 by Raymond Hickman, who converted the grocery store into a tavern and local watering hole known as Deep Eddy Cabaret. Today, Deep Eddy Cabaret holds the distinction of being Austin's oldest operating neighborhood bar, and has been a mainstay for locals and tourists alike for over 70 years. A dive bar par excellence, Deep Eddy Cabaret is a beloved icon of old Austin weirdness.

In 2023, Deep Eddy Cabaret was featured as a participating business in our first-ever [Legacy Business Month](#) passport, which guided Austinites through our city's iconic local businesses, encouraging them to celebrate and support the institutions that define so much of Austin's culture. We are deeply honored to have partnered with Deep Eddy Cabaret on this initiative, and look forward to future collaborations as we continue to celebrate Austin's incredible legacy businesses.

Preservation Austin wholeheartedly supports the designation of Deep Eddy Cabaret as a City of Austin Landmark and look forward to seeing yet another legacy business added to our city's inventory of historic landmarks. Thank you for your consideration and your service to the City of Austin.

Sincerely,

Melissa Barry, President