

### PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

This zoning/rezoning request will be reviewed and acted upon at two public hearings: before the Land Use Commission and the City Council. Although applicants and/or their agent(s) are expected to attend a public hearing, you are not required to attend. However, if you do attend, you have the opportunity to speak FOR or AGAINST the proposed development or change. You may also contact a neighborhood or environmental organization that has expressed an interest in an application affecting your neighborhood.

During its public hearing, the board or commission may postpone or continue an application's hearing to a later date, or may evaluate the City staff's recommendation and public input forwarding its own recommendation to the City Council. If the board or commission announces a specific date and time for a postponement or continuation that is not later than 60 days from the announcement, no further notice is required.

During its public hearing, the City Council may grant or deny a zoning request, or rezone the land to a less intensive zoning than requested but in no case will it grant a more intensive zoning.

However, in order to allow for mixed use development, the Council may add the MIXED USE (MU) COMBINING DISTRICT to certain commercial districts. The MU Combining District simply allows residential uses in addition to those uses already allowed in the seven commercial zoning districts. As a result, the MU Combining District allows the combination of office, retail, commercial, and residential uses within a single development.

For additional information on the City of Austin's land development process, visit our website: [www.austintexas.gov/planning](http://www.austintexas.gov/planning).

Written comments must be submitted to the board or commission (or the contact person listed on the notice) before or at a public hearing. Your comments should include the board or commission's name, the scheduled date of the public hearing, and the Case Number and the contact person listed on the notice.

**Case Number: C14H-2026-0018**  
**Contact: Austin Lukes, 512-978-9766**  
**Public Hearing: Historic Landmark Commission, April 1, 2025**

Ms. DRA Houston

Your Name (please print)

2207 E. 22nd Street

Your address(es) affected by this application

Ms. DRA Houston

Signature

Date

Daytime Telephone: 512-472-2981

Comments: Please do not add Mixed Use Combining District to this request.

I am in favor  
 I object

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin Planning Department  
ATTN: Austin Lukes  
P. O. Box 1088, Austin, TX 78767  
Or email at:  
Preservation@austintexas.gov

**Sturgill, Hunter**

---

**From:** Sturgill, Hunter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 24, 2026 9:42 AM  
**To:** Historic Preservation Office  
**Subject:** FW: Support for Rezoning Case for Marilyn Webb



**Hunter Sturgill** (she/her)  
Planner II  
Historic Preservation Office  
Austin Planning  
512-974-3393  
[hunter.sturgill@austintexas.gov](mailto:hunter.sturgill@austintexas.gov)

**Please Note:** Correspondence and information submitted to the City of Austin are subject to the Texas Public Information Act (Chapter 552) and may be published online. **Por Favor Tome En Cuenta:** La correspondencia y la información enviada a la Ciudad de Austin está sujeta a la Ley de Información Pública de Texas (Capítulo 552) y puede ser publicada en línea.

---

**From:** brenda malik [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 23, 2026 5:31 PM  
**To:** Sturgill, Hunter <[hunter.sturgill@austintexas.gov](mailto:hunter.sturgill@austintexas.gov)>  
**Cc:** Marilyn Poole [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Support for Rezoning Case for Marilyn Webb

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

**External Email - Exercise Caution**

Greetings,

My name is Brenda Malik, longtime resident and past president of the Rogers-Washington-Holy Cross Historic Neighborhood.

Mrs. Webb and family have been valued community members for decades and have a treasured place in our neighborhood's history and culture.

I fully support her efforts in this rezoning request. Please forward my sentiments to the Commission.

Sincerely,  
Brenda Malik

**CAUTION:** This is an EXTERNAL email. Please use caution when clicking links or opening attachments. If you believe this to be a malicious or phishing email, please report it using the "Report

### PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

This zoning/rezoning request will be reviewed and acted upon at two public hearings: before the Land Use Commission and the City Council. Although applicants and/or their agent(s) are expected to attend a public hearing, you are not required to attend. However, if you do attend, you have the opportunity to speak FOR or AGAINST the proposed development or change. You may also contact a neighborhood or environmental organization that has expressed an interest in an application affecting your neighborhood.

During its public hearing, the board or commission may postpone or continue an application's hearing to a later date, or may evaluate the City staff's recommendation and public input forwarding its own recommendation to the City Council. If the board or commission announces a specific date and time for a postponement or continuation that is not later than 60 days from the announcement, no further notice is required.

During its public hearing, the City Council may grant or deny a zoning request, or rezone the land to a less intensive zoning than requested but in no case will it grant a more intensive zoning.

However, in order to allow for mixed use development, the Council may add the MIXED USE (MU) COMBINING DISTRICT to certain commercial districts. The MU Combining District simply allows residential uses in addition to those uses already allowed in the seven commercial zoning districts. As a result, the MU Combining District allows the combination of office, retail, commercial, and residential uses within a single development.

For additional information on the City of Austin's land development process, visit our website:  
[www.austintexas.gov/planning](http://www.austintexas.gov/planning).

Written comments must be submitted to the board or commission (or the contact person listed on the notice) before or at a public hearing. Your comments should include the board or commission's name, the scheduled date of the public hearing, and the Case Number and the contact person listed on the notice.

Case Number: C14H-2026-0018  
Contact: Austin Lukes, 512-978-9766  
Public Hearing: Historic Landmark Commission, April 1, 2025

Molly Martin  
Your Name (please print)

I am in favor  
 I object

1805 Maple Ave. Austin, Tx 78702  
Your address(es) affected by this application

Molly Martin  
Signature

3/25/26  
Date

Daytime Telephone: 512-586-9833

Comments: I object. I prefer to maintain the historic character of the neighborhood and to avoid changes that would make it feel denser & less visually appealing. like increase in duplexes/deep construction.

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:  
City of Austin Planning Department  
ATTN: Austin Lukes  
P. O. Box 1088, Austin, TX 78767  
Or email at:  
Preservation@austintexas.gov



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
Miriam Conner, President  
Travis Smith, President-Elect  
Elisha Perez, Vice President  
Kelly Little, Secretary  
Perry Lorenz, Vice President  
Nora Keane, Treasurer

**DIRECTORS**  
Atif Ahmad  
Erika Bonfanti  
Will Bridges  
Nikki DaVaughn  
Leah Derton  
Frank Farkash  
Roland Galang  
Ryan Gugenheim

Travis Holler  
Steve Jordan  
Mary Kahle  
Mallory Laurel  
Murray Legge  
Francois Levy  
Emily Reed  
Mueni Rudd  
Kevin Sinkar

**EX-OFFICIO**  
Charles Peveto, Austin History Center Association  
Kelley Russell, Travis County Historical Commission

**ADVISOR**  
Cyndee Lake

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Lindsey Derrington

March 30, 2026

RE: Hill-Thompson House Historic Designation

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

[Preservation Austin](#) exists to empower Austinites to shape a more inclusive, resilient, and meaningful community culture through preservation. We write today in support of historic designation for 1906 Maple Avenue, also known as the Hill-Thompson House, for its historic associations and community value. We are proud to partner with the home's owner, our friend Marilynn Poole Webb, in preparing this well-deserved nomination.

The house at 1906 Maple Avenue is associated with several significant figures, including architect John S. Chase, FAIA, zoologist and geneticist Oscar Thompson, and civic leader Irene Hill-Thompson. John S. Chase was the first African American student to enroll at The University of Texas at Austin following desegregation, the first to graduate from UT's School of Architecture, and the first licensed African American architect in Texas. When he was unable to find work at white architecture firms after graduation, Chase forged a practice for himself with residential and institutional commissions in Black East Austin that speak to his distinctive modernist vision, including the Teachers State Association of Texas Building (1952), David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (1959), and the Della Phillips House (mid-1960s). Throughout his long and successful career as an architect and entrepreneur, Chase paved the way for future African American architects in Texas.

Like Chase, Oscar Thompson was among the first African American students to enroll at The University of Texas at Austin, and was the school's first Black graduate in 1952. After Thompson's passing in 1962, his wife, Irene Hill-Thompson commissioned Chase to build her home in the Rogers-Washington-Holy Cross neighborhood. Hill-Thompson was a longstanding civic leader in East Austin, and the house served as a meeting place for political and community organizing. During Lyndon B. Johnson's 1964 presidential campaign, Irene and her daughter, Ida Dawn, were selected as "Blue Birds," a group of trusted community liaisons tasked with outreach and voter engagement efforts within Austin's African American community. Irene hosted numerous political events at her Maple Avenue home, for President Johnson, U.S. Congressmen Lloyd Doggett, East Texas Black Republican operative Ernest Sterling, J.J. "Jake" Pickle, and Texas State Senator Gonzalo Barrientos.

This legacy of civic engagement extends to the home's current owner, Irene Hill-Thompson's niece Marilynn Poole Webb, a leader in the Rogers-Washington-Holy Cross Historic District effort and longtime friend and collaborator of our organization. We are thrilled and honored to have worked with Marilynn in preparing this nomination for one of Austin's most remarkable homes. Thank you for your consideration and your service to the City of Austin.

Sincerely,

Miriam Conner, President



March 29, 2026

Re: Support for Austin Historic Zoning – Irene Hill Thompson House

Commissioners:

On behalf of Mid Tex Mod, the leading voice for the preservation of Modern architecture in our Central Texas region, we submit this letter supporting the Landmark designation of the Irene Hill Thompson House.

This property is of exceptional significance as the first residential commission of architect John Saunders Chase, the first licensed African American architect in Texas. The home is a premier example of Modernist architecture in East Austin, notably incorporating Usonian design principles, such as its cantilevered flat roof and seamless integration into the landscape. Beyond its architectural value, the house served as a vital hub for Black civic engagement. It was designed specifically for Irene Hill Thompson, an integral community leader, whose home served as a vital hub for hosting political and social organizations.

We, at Mid Tex Mod, believe that designating the Irene Hill Thompson House as a historic landmark is a necessary step in preserving the legacy of John Saunders Chase, honoring African American Heritage. We would appreciate your favorable consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Peveto".

Charles Peveto, President  
Mid Tex Mod, Central Texas Chapter  
Docomomo US

# TARA A. DUDLEY, PhD

March 27, 2026

City of Austin Historic Landmark Commission  
Historic Preservation Office  
P.O. Box 1088  
Austin, TX 78767

Dear Commissioners,

I write to you expressing the strongest support of landmark designation for the Hill-Thompson House at 1906 Maple Avenue—an extraordinary site where architecture, community leadership, and Black history in Austin intersect in profound and enduring ways.

Designed in 1963 by pioneering architect John Saunders Chase, the Hill-Thompson House represents a defining early moment in his career as his first residential commission in Austin. Chase, the first African American graduate of the University of Texas School of Architecture and the first licensed Black architect in Texas, brought a refined mid-century modern vocabulary to East Austin and Black Austinites—adapting modern design influenced by the Usonian principles of Frank Lloyd Wright to the cultural, climatic, and social realities of a segregated city. This home, with its careful siting, climate-responsive overhangs, and balance of privacy and openness, reflects both accessibility, innovation, and intention.

Yet the significance of this house extends far beyond architecture. It is deeply rooted in the lives and legacies of its original owner, Irene Hill Thompson. Mrs. Thompson's husband Oscar Thompson was a groundbreaking figure in his own right—the first African American graduate of the University of Texas, earning his master's degree in zoology in 1952 and contributing to early research in genetics. After his untimely death in 1962, the construction of this home became both a personal and symbolic act. Designed by his close friend John S. Chase, the house reflects resilience, friendship, and Mrs. Thompson's determination to build a life and legacy for her family in the face of loss.

Irene Hill Thompson herself stands as one of the most significant civic figures associated with Austin's history. During a 34-plus-year career with Austin Independent School District (AISD)—much of it at L. C. Anderson High School—she mentored generations of students and young professionals while also serving as a leader in civic, political, and cultural life. Her home was not merely a private residence; it was a vital gathering place for community organizing, political engagement, and social life in East Austin. From hosting campaign events during the 1964 presidential campaign of Lyndon B. Johnson to welcoming local and state leaders such as Lloyd Doggett and Gonzalo Barrientos, the Hill-Thompson House functioned as a hub of grassroots democracy and civic participation.

# TARA A. DUDLEY, PhD

---

The house is also inseparable from the broader legacy of the Hill family, one of Austin's most accomplished and civically engaged African American families. Irene's parents, Jerome and Ida Belle Hill, established deep roots in East Austin in the early twentieth century, contributing to the development of a thriving Black middle-class community despite the constraints of segregation. Her siblings, including Dr. James L. Hill—a senior vice president at the University of Texas—and Waldron Wray Plicque, a longtime educator and administrator in AISD, continued that legacy of leadership and public service. The Maple Avenue home reflects this multigenerational commitment to education, civic life, and community advancement. Importantly, the Hill-Thompson House has remained in the stewardship of the family since its construction, now owned by Marilyn Webb, Irene's niece. This continuity of ownership enhances the property's integrity and underscores its role not only as a historic structure but as a living site of memory, identity, and community connection.

Within the Rogers–Washington–Holy Cross local historic district—an area shaped by the resilience and aspirations of Black Austinites during and after segregation—the Hill-Thompson House stands as both a physical and symbolic landmark. It reflects the broader history of a community that, despite systemic barriers such as redlining and restrictive covenants, built a vibrant and self-sustaining civic and cultural landscape.

Landmark designation is essential to preserving not only the architectural integrity of this mid-century modern residence, but also the layered histories it embodies: the story of a pioneering architect, the achievements of a barrier-breaking scholar, the leadership of a remarkable civic figure, and the enduring strength of a family and community. For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Commission to approve landmark designation for the Hill-Thompson House. In doing so, the City of Austin will honor a site that tells a fuller, richer story of our past—one grounded in excellence, perseverance, and the power of place. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,



Tara A. Dudley, PhD

Assistant Professor, The University of Texas School of Architecture  
Chair, State Board of Review, Texas Historical Commission

author, *"There Is Something Else to be Done": The Life and Career of John Saunders Chase (1925-2012)*  
(manuscript in progress; under contract with UT Press)



E4 Youth  
5930 Middle Fiskville Rd.  
Austin, TX 78752  
Email: [carl@e4youth.org](mailto:carl@e4youth.org)  
March 31, 2026

**Re: Letter of Support for Landmark Designation – Rogers Washington Holy Cross Neighborhood**

Dear Members of the Historic Landmark Commission,

I am writing on behalf of E4 Youth to express our strong support for the landmark designation of the Rogers Washington Holy Cross neighborhood.

E4 Youth has had the privilege of working alongside residents and stakeholders in this community to document oral histories and develop immersive, technology-enabled placemaking experiences that center the voices, memories, and lived experiences of those who call this neighborhood home. Through this work, we have witnessed firsthand that Rogers Washington Holy Cross is not only a collection of mid-century homes, but a living archive of Black excellence, resilience, and community-building in Austin.

Developed during a period of segregation, the neighborhood stands as a powerful example of a self-determined, middle-class Black community that created opportunity in the face of systemic exclusion. Rogers Washington Holy Cross Historic District reflects a critical chapter in Austin's history, where Black professionals, educators, and civic leaders established a thriving neighborhood when access to other parts of the city was restricted. ([Sightlines](#))

Today, that legacy is increasingly at risk. Like much of East Austin, the area has faced mounting development pressure and the gradual erosion of historically significant places. Historic designation plays a vital role in ensuring that the architectural character, cultural identity, and stories embedded in this neighborhood are preserved for future generations. ([City of Austin](#))

At E4 Youth, we believe that storytelling is infrastructure. Our work in Rogers Washington Holy Cross has focused on capturing narratives that cannot be replaced once lost—stories of family, migration, achievement, and community life that bring meaning to the built environment. Landmark designation strengthens this effort by protecting the physical context in which these stories live, ensuring that preservation extends beyond structures to include cultural memory.

This designation is not only about honoring the past. It is about creating a foundation for the future—one where young people, residents, and visitors can engage with Austin's full history



through both place and story. It supports responsible growth while safeguarding the integrity of one of the city's most important cultural landscapes.

We respectfully urge the Commission to approve and uphold landmark protections for the Rogers Washington Holy Cross neighborhood. Doing so affirms the value of this community's history and ensures that its legacy remains visible, accessible, and intact for generations to come.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to preserving Austin's cultural heritage.

Sincerely,  
Carl Settles  
E4 Youth, Founder/CEO



April 1, 2026

Historic Landmark Commission - via email – [hunter.sturgill@austintexas.gov](mailto:hunter.sturgill@austintexas.gov)  
City of Austin

Action Item Number: C14H-2026-0018 – 1906 Maple Ave.

Dear Commission Members:

I am writing on behalf of The Children's Haven Association (TCHA) Board of Directors, in support of the zoning change required for landmark designation of the home of Marilyn Poole Webb, a valued member of our board. TCHA is an 80-year-old community-based non-profit that was formed by East Austin residents with a mission to preserve community history and enhance the lives of underserved youth and their families. TCHA recognizes the importance of legacy and the many personalities who have impacted life in East Austin. One of those outstanding personalities was John S. Chase, architect for The Hill Thompson House which is situated just blocks away from our home facility; another was Irene Hill Thompson, original owner of the house who used her home to enrich the lives of East Austin youth and organizations. The landmark designation will be vital to continue development and preservation of storied histories within East Austin and specifically within the Rogers-Washington-Holy Cross Historic District. Marilyn has shown a dedication to share the home and to continue its community purpose.

The Board offers its full support and asks that you act favorably on this application for zoning change.

Yours truly,

Patricia Calhoun, Secretary