Sturgill, Hunter

From: Kyle Grantier [redacted]
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2026 5:13 PM
To: Historic Preservation Office; Sturgill, Hunter
Subject: Opposition to Demolition of 2002 New York Avenue – Case PR-2026-130461

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Dear Members of the Historic Landmark Commission,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed demolition of 2002 New York Avenue and urge the Commission to consider every reasonable opportunity to preserve this home.

As East Austin continues to change, we are steadily losing the homes that tell the stories of the families and communities who built our neighborhoods. These modest houses may not be grand landmarks, but they represent generations of Austin's history and contribute to the character that makes East Austin special.

Built around 1940, 2002 New York Avenue has been home to generations of residents, including Sueilla Duke, a seamstress; Elijah and Theodora Brown, who owned the property for nearly two decades; and Israel and Alice Jones, who lived there in the 1960s. The Jones family also reportedly had ties to the neighboring property at 2004 New York Avenue, which has already been demolished and redeveloped.

What concerns me most is that the City's own 2016 historic resource survey identified 2002 New York Avenue as eligible for local landmark designation and as a contributing property to a potential historic district. The current staff report also recognizes the home's architectural significance, describing it as an excellent example of a modest East Austin wood-frame residence. Given these findings, allowing its demolition seems especially difficult to justify.

I respectfully ask the Commission to oppose this demolition, reconsider the property's eligibility for historic designation, and fully explore preservation alternatives.

Once these homes are gone, their history cannot be rebuilt. We owe it to the generations who shaped East Austin, and those who will live here in the future, to take their preservation seriously.

Please include this letter in the official public record for Case PR-2026-130461 and ensure it is distributed to all members of the Historic Landmark Commission for their review ahead of the November 4, 2026 hearing. I respectfully ask that the Commission consider these concerns before making a decision on the proposed demolition.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kyle Grantier

East Austin, Texas

Sent from my iPhone

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