Sturgill, Hunter

From: Angela Reed [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2026 2:48 PM
To: Historic Preservation Office
Subject: PR 2026-125072

Categories: Blue Category

External Email - Exercise Caution

Re: PR 2026-125072
1918 Newning Ave., 78704
HLC meeting Nov. 4, 2026

Attention:
Historic Landmark Commission Hunter Sturgill, CoA Preservation Office

Dear Mr. Sturgill,

I am writing to oppose the demolition of 1918 Newning Avenue.

I live on this street, and I have been disheartened to see that after witnessing continuous occupancy by long-term tenants, after the property was sold to the current owner it fell into what appears to be intentional neglect. I was not surprised to see that the next stage of this property was a permit for demolition.

I am one of many volunteers who worked for many years, and raised funds from neighborhood donations, to designate Travis Heights as a historic district. One of our primary hopes was to keep the smaller historically intact bungalows like this one, because they are not only iconic for this neighborhood with its history of middle income City workers and creatives, but they allow for lower rental rates, starter homes, and homes for small families and individuals. As we all know, such homes are increasingly hard to come by in central Austin as high property values prompt developers to seek properties like this one, who allow them to fall into disrepair, then demolish and flip for a high profit. It's a familiar story that's a surprise to no one, and try as we might, our neighborhood residents seem to have no recourse.

My opinion is that this home's demolition is avoidable. The house sits on a very deep lot that, if the owner wished, he could perhaps add onto this house. It could also be renovated and restored, as so many smaller homes have had done with great success in our neighborhood. One need only look to our locally historic designated street, Mary Street, which is half a block away from this house, for many fine examples. I hope that Mr. Hutchinson will be encouraged to go this route rather than demolition.

Thank you,
Angela Reed
20-year resident on Newning Ave.

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Sturgill, Hunter

From: Donna Morrow [redacted]
Sent: Monday, November 2, 2026 5:19 PM
To: Historic Preservation Office
Subject: Case # PR 2026-125072-1918 Newning Ave

Categories: Blue Category

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I OBJECT to the demolition of this house in our historic zone.

Donna Morrow
Resident & taxpayer
504 Terrace Dr
Austin TX. 78704
Sent from my iPad

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Sturgill, Hunter

From: CLIFTON LADD[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, November 3, 2026 11:51 AM
To: Acton, Jeffrey - BC; Alvarez, Jaime - BC; Grogan, Harmony - BC; Harris, August - BC; Heimsath, Ben - BC; Koch, Kevin - BC; Larosche, Carl - BC; Lute, Racheal - BC; Pleasant-Wright, Tonya - BC; Rice, Judah - BC; Bat Taniguchi
Cc: Historic Preservation Office; Barbara Cilley; Susan Armstrong Fisher; Annie Possis; Melanie Martinez; Mary Fealkoff; Robin Sanders
Subject: Agenda item 11 for HLC meeting on Nov. 4, 2026: PR-2026-125072 – 1918 Newning Ave

Categories: Blue Category

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To Chairman Ben Heimsath and members of the Historic Landmark Commission:

I request that you postpone action on item 11 on your agenda, a proposed demolition permit for 1918 Newning Ave.

We would like to learn more about this house, which is a new proposed permit on your agenda. We need additional time for that. We would also like to open discussions with the permit applicant, who recently salvaged and restored the old Montessori School at the corner of Monroe and Brackenridge. They did an excellent job on that one, and we would like to see if they can do something comparable with the home at 1918 Newning, which is a contributing home in the Travis Heights - Fairview Park National Register Historic District.

Thank you for considering these comments and for your work to preserve our history.

Sincerely,

Clifton Ladd
SRCC Historic Preservation Committee Co-Chair

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