Sturgill, Hunter

From: Melanie Martinez [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2026 8:53 AM
To: Historic Preservation Office
Subject: 706 E. Monroe PR-2026-079349; GF-2026-090393

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Dear Commissioners,
I spoke at the last meeting in opposition to the demolition of 706 E. Monroe but am unable to attend tonight. I still care! As a neighbor of this home for almost 40 years, I have been in love with it all this time. Even though it's not landmark-worthy in rigid legal terms, to me it typifies everything about Austin's history, vibe and charm. Its location at the entrance to Little Stacy Park and that connection with our beloved Jean Mather, its architecture (a perfect bungalow transitioning from the Victorian era, seen in some of its detail), its integrity (the care shown by its owners over 100 years), and the stories of those who have lived there all speak to me and many other neighbors. I worked hard with our community to create our National Register District, with homes like this in my heart and mind. Working class people made up Travis Heights—and this is how they lived. This is our historic district's story!
It breaks my heart that the owners didn't see its community value when they bought it, expecting to demolish it for a need that is temporary.
It would make so much sense to adapt the interior for aging in place, and unobtrusively bridge it to their modern home. This is an acceptable approach in historic preservation. Otherwise, one day, when needs change and these owners move, we are left with another page missing from our story.
I am pleading with the owner to reconsider demolition and work with the Commission members for a more equitable solution to the problem.

Thank you,

Melanie Martinez
1214 Newning Ave
Travis Heights-Fairview Park NRHD Coordinator

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For any additional questions or concerns, contact CSIRT at "cybersecurity@austintexas.gov".

PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

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 a public hearing, the board or commission may postpone or continue an application's hearing to a later date or recommend approval or denial of the application. 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.

A board or commission's decision may be appealed by a person withstanding to appeal, or an interested party that is identified as a person who can appeal the decision. The body holding a public hearing on an appeal will determine whether a person has standing to appeal the decision.

An interested party is defined as a person who is the applicant or record owner of the subject property, or who communicates an interest to a board or commission by:

- delivering a written statement to the board or commission before the public hearing that generally identifies the issues of concern (*it may be delivered to the contact person listed on a notice*); or
- appearing and speaking for the record at the public hearing; and:
- occupies a primary residence that is within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development.
- is the record owner of property within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development; or
- is an officer of an environmental or neighborhood organization that has an interest in or whose declared boundaries are within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development?

A notice of appeal must be filed with the director of the responsible department no later than 14 days after the decision. An appeal form may be available from the responsible department.

For additional information on the City of Austin's land development process, please visit our website: www.austintexas.gov/abc

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Written comments must be submitted to the board or commission (or the contact person listed on the notice) before a public hearing. Your comments should include the board or commission's name, the scheduled date of the public hearing, the Case Number and the contact person listed on the notice. Correspondence and information submitted to the City of Austin are subject to the Texas Public Information Act (Chapter 552) and may be published online

Case Number: PR-2026-079349; GF-2026-090393 - 706 E MONROE ST
Contact: Hunter Sturgill, (512) 974-3393
Public Hearing: Historic Landmark Commission, August 5, 2026

☐ **I am in favor**
☒ **I object**

Kyle E. Graves — Your Name (*please print*)

710 East Monroe Street — Your address(es) affected by this application (*optional*)

Kyle E. Graves — Signature

08/04/2026 — Date

Comments: A well maintained Craftsman bungalow retaining original architecture details. One of three 100 year old bungalos on the block (706, 708, 710). Carport/porch addition designed by Architect & UT Architecture Professor (1958-1984) Robert Mather. See attached of similar style of "Mather Addition" at 1611 Alameda Drive.

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:
Austin Planning
Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-8810
E-mail: preservation@austintexas.gov



Austin and its Architecture

Austin Chapter American Institute of Architects/Women's Architectural League



11. Old Main 1887
St. Edwards University Campus
3001 S. Congress
Nicholas J. Clayton - Architect



16. Mather Addition 1968
1611 Alameda
Robert Mather - Architect



12. Mary Moody Northen Theatre 1972
St. Edward's University Campus
3001 S. Congress
Alvin J. Julian - Architect
Build-Goebel Construction Co-Builder



17. Green Pastures Restaurant 1890
811 W. Live Oak
E. W. Herndon - Builder



13. Duplex 1972
1309 St. Edwards Drive
Leon Chandler - Architect
Mike Sloan - Builder



18. Tips House 1887, 1976
(Franklin Savings & Loan Association)
Moved from 403 W. 7th to S. Congress & Oltorf
Bell Klein & Hoffman—Restoration Architects
Moved & restored by Franklin Savings and Austin Heritage Society



14. Quality Inn - South 1973
2200 S. I.H. 35
Crook & Davidson - Architects
Reindale Enterprises - Builder



19. St. Ignatius Catholic Church 1964
126 W. Oltorf
Jessen Associates - Architects



15. Texas Parade Magazine Building 1970
1946 S. I.H. 35
Clovis Heimsath - Architect
Jim Newman - Builder



20. Goodwill Baptist Church 1903, 1941
1700 Newton Street

From: **Wendy Price Todd**
Subject: Re: 706 E Monroe St
Date: July 28, 2026 at 10:20 AM
To: Lukes, Austin Austin.Lukes@austintexas.gov
Cc: Rice, Judah - BC BC-Judah.Rice@austintexas.gov, bc-Ben.Heimsath@austintexas.org, [redacted]

Thank you for the reply. Notice arrived yesterday however the posted sign is detached from the post and in the street.

I have confirmed from Wilda Campbell, the owner from 1961 to 2025 that the shed was indeed designed and built by Bob Mather in 1978 and made from wood from the original garage.

The owner between Wilda Campbell and the current owner had pledged to maintain the original house however the agreement did not convey to the new owner.

On Tue, Jul 28, 2026 at 9:12 AM Lukes, Austin <Austin.Lukes@austintexas.gov> wrote:

> Good morning,
>
> Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We will add this information to our file, and have it for the full Commission's review. Additionally, I apologize that you have not received notice of the case by mail. I have verified that the letters did get mailed out for all properties within 500 feet, but we've noticed some delays recently related to delivery by the postal service.
>
> We will go by the address as soon as possible and look into the posted sign issue. If anything else does come up, please let me know.
>
> Thank you,
> Austin
>
> **Austin Lukes**
> Planner Senior
> Austin Planning, Historic Preservation Office
> 512-978-0766
> Austin.lukes@austintexas.gov
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Wendy Price Todd [redacted]
> **Sent:** Saturday, July 25, 2026 12:09 PM
> **To:** Rice, Judah - BC <BC-Judah.Rice@austintexas.gov>; bc-Ben.Heimsath@austintexas.org <bc-Ben.Heimsath@austintexas.org>
> **Cc:** Lukes, Austin <Austin.Lukes@austintexas.gov>; [redacted]
> **Subject:** 706 E Monroe St
>
> You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important
>
> External Email - Exercise Caution





Hello Chair Heimsath and Commission Member Rice,

I wanted to alert you to a demolition case for PR-2026-079349, scheduled for at your August 5, 2026 meeting. While we reside within 500' of the

property, we have not yet received written demolition notice and that the paper sign is no longer attached to the wood post.

The 1928 bungalow is a contributing structure to the Travis Heights Fairview Park National Register Historic District but I would also like to draw your attention to its carport which I understand was designed and built by Robert G. Mather. <https://www.lib.utexas.edu/about/collections/robert-g-mather-papers>

While the carport is documented as 1928, it clearly had revisions in keeping with those performed on his 1913 home and property at 1611 Alameda Drive which he shared with Jean Mather.
<https://ahc.access.lyrasistechnology.org/repositories/2/resources/1988>

I have blind copied Wilda Campbell, the former owner for verification.

Thank you for your service, expertise and careful consideration of this case.

Wendy Price Todd

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