Sturgill, Hunter

From: Scott Menzies [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2026 12:08 PM
To: Historic Preservation Office; Lukes, Austin
Subject: Request for postponement

You don't often get email [redacted] why this is important

External Email - Exercise Caution

I am writing to respectfully request a postponement of the Historic Landmark Commission's consideration of 2002 New York Avenue.

We believe there is important historical context surrounding this property and the life of Sueilla Duke that deserves further research and consideration before the Commission makes a decision. In particular, we feel the historical significance of working-class Black residents and their contributions to East Austin should not be overlooked simply because their stories do not fit traditional definitions of historical significance.

Sueilla Duke's story as a Black woman, seamstress, and independent property owner in 1940s Austin represents an important part of our community's history. The history of her household, including the working-class residents who lived there, provides a valuable connection to the everyday people who helped build and sustain this city.

We believe it is especially important to have additional time to research the individuals who lived in this home, their occupations, their personal histories, and their connections to the surrounding East Austin community. These residents are an important part of the property's historical significance, and we do not feel their stories have been sufficiently explored or documented.

We would appreciate additional time to gather supporting historical information and ensure that this history is properly documented and presented to the Commission.

We respectfully ask that consideration of this property be postponed to a future meeting.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued commitment to preserving Austin's history.

Scott Menzies

[redacted]

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