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November 15, 2010

Late Backup

Mayor Lee Leffingwell, Mayor Pro Tem Mike Martinez
and Council Members

City of Austin
Post Office Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-8865
Sent via e-mail

Dear Mayor Leffingwell, Mayor Pro Tem Martinez and Council Member,



HERITAGE
SOCIETY OF
AUSTIN

P.O. BOX 2113
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768
512-474-5198
FAX 512-476-8687

The Heritage Society of Austin respectfully requests your support for the designation of the Hyde Park Local Historic District. In establishing the Local Historic District program, then later revising the nomination criteria to be more feasible, Austin's City Council has endorsed the Local Historic Districts mechanism to preserve the unique character of Austin's historic neighborhoods, and to create an alternative to the ad hoc designation of individual landmark structures. The Heritage Society of Austin believes that the establishment of Local Historic Districts is the best means to preserve the treasured and unique heritage of our City.

We are impressed with all the years of work that led to the Hyde Park Local Historic District nomination. As the applicant has demonstrated, there has been extensive outreach and public education about the benefits and responsibilities of a Local Historic District. They have responded to concerns and incorporated feedback into their proposed Design Standards. The City's Local Historic District program has been unequivocally established, the nomination criteria are clearly stated, and the proposed district on all counts meets the criteria for acceptance.

For over 50 years the Heritage Society has been the leading protector of Austin's diverse cultural heritage through the preservation of historic treasures and places. As such, we believe that learning from and celebrating our past while planning for and creating the future enhances livability and a sense of identity for our city.

Instituting Local Historic Districts is a goal of our City, and we hope you will seize the opportunity to recommend Council approval of this strong application. Thank you for your many hours of hard work to preserve what is best about Austin for future generations.

Sincerely,

Courtney Hoffman

Courtney Hoffman
President