

# **SARAH PUTNAM CROCKER CROCKER CONSULTANTS**

**9415 Burnet Rd Suite 306**

**Austin Texas 78758**

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January 26, 2014

Laurie Limbacher, Chair  
Historic Landmark Commission  
City of Austin  
Austin, Texas

RE: Request to Postpone Items A.1 and A.2 to February 24, 2014

Chair Limbacher,

I would respectfully request that these items be postponed until February 24<sup>th</sup> for the following reasons:

- I have retained the services of a civil engineer to prepare a massing study to illustrate a.) the gross s.f. that could be built under current conditions and b.) the gross s.f. that could be built if the pending zoning request is granted.
- Despite numerous requests the applicant has yet to provide the Commission with the pertinent information about the proposed student housing project, which is the driving force behind both of these cases.
- The applicant requested a permit to remove a Heritage Tree that is located behind the Dabney-Horne house and the Planning Commission denied that permit last March. The house cannot be relocated until that issue is resolved.
- There are no minimum setbacks in the Inner West Campus Subdistrict. The maximum setback is 10 feet. However, Section 25-2-757, (B), (4) allows the director to modify a maximum setback to protect a historic structure or a tree designated as significant by the city arborist.

The Commission is being asked to take the unprecedented step of reducing the setting of this historic landmark by 50% and removing approximately 25% of the structure to accommodate a student housing project.

The applicant has implied that if Dabney-Horne house isn't a.) relocated to another site or b.) whittled down to size, the proposed student housing project can't be built. To the best of my knowledge the applicant has never provided data to substantiate this claim.

This is the first student housing project that involves a historic landmark, which is why these cases are so important. Whatever action you take will have a direct impact of the viability of every historic landmark in the UNO Overlay.

The applicant filed their first application for a Certificate of Appropriateness on April 29, 2013. They have had nine months to produce this information. I'm asking for thirty days.

Sincerely,



Sarah Crocker  
Authorized Agent  
Gerhard-Schoch 1887 LLC