DOWN AUSTIN TOWN ALLIANCE

May 21, 2018

Historic Landmark Commission City of Austin 201 E. Second Street Austin, TX 78701

Historic Landmark Commission:

We are pleased to provide a letter supporting the installation of a pocket patio outside of the Scarbrough Building on Congress Avenue and 6th Street. The Scarbrough Patio further amplifies the clear and present demand for more social destinations along Congress Avenue.

The Downtown Austin Alliance believes that the installation proposed promotes an active, engaging street environment for dining and social engagement while being compatible with the character of the building. Additionally, other national register historic districts around the United States have integrated sidewalk dining and other pedestrian-oriented experiences with their historic assets.

We feel that pocket patios along The Avenue only enhance the district when done as a way to activate first floor retail uses. As you know, improving Congress Avenue as the 'Main Street of Texas' is called for in the Council adopted Downtown Austin Plan and in the Congress Avenue Urban Design Initiative. Through public engagement, Austinites have asked for a more people-centric and lively Congress Avenue. Please approve this opportunity to improve what is arguably Austin's most prominent street.

Sincerely,

Dewitt Peart President & CEO