

May 27, 2022

City of Austin Historic Landmark Commission

Commissioners,

We are reaching to support the project and in opposition to historic zoning applications for the W. 4th Street item that will be on your June 1st agenda as items A6 and A7. The Hanover Group has been very intentional in their planning to not only respect the historical nature of the buildings but more over, the historical and cultural nature that 4th street is and has been for decades to the LGBT community.

As a city, we can all point to countless developments that have disregarded the significance of small businesses in their path to redevelop a lot. It is harder to find examples like the Hanover Group that have not only made it a point to preserve bricks and mortar but to preserve the nexus of a community and make every effort to improve the long term viability of community centered small businesses in the area.

This developer could have done like most others and simply worked with the land owners to build from the sidewalk up, mowing over every small local business in it's path but this developer is setting anew standard of reaching beyond the expected and working with not only with the land owner but also the existing small businesses and the community. We hope to see more intentionality in future developments in the city that respects not only the physical historical aspects, but are also inclusive of the cultural aspects and housing needs of Austin.

Sincerely yours,

Tina Cannon President & CEO Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce