

From: Francine Dolins [<mailto:fdolins@umich.edu>]

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 11:11 AM

To: HDC

Subject: Protest about the State Theater Space becoming offices

Hello,

I am writing in protest that the State Theater Space become office space. On Thursday night the Historic District Commission will be voting on the approval of an elevator and windows in the State Theater Space on the north and south walls. This is in preparation for conversion to office space, which I am against.

The State Theater is an iconic building, designed by C. Howard Crane who also designed Orchestra Hall and the Fox Theater In Detroit. It opened in 1942.

The conversion to 4 theaters, and eventually 2, was completed over 20 years ago. The former balcony where movies are shown now is not well designed and inaccessible for many. However, it could be renovated and the space upstairs of Urban Outfitters used for a variety of cultural spaces. Russ Collins of the Michigan Theater, which programs the movies, wrote an op-ed on Sunday offering to partner with others willing to step up and save this space for cultural uses.

Sincerely,
Francine Dolins

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