

From: Elaine Neelands <eneelands@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 10:33 AM
To: HDC <HDC@a2gov.org>
Subject: Fwd: W. Washington

To HDC,

I attended the zoom meeting on Thursday regarding the city property on W. Washington. I wish to thank the commission for being an active part of this process.

The questions proposed by Jessica Ross regarding the impact the height and size the proposed building will have on the integrity if the OWS are crucial. The massive structure proposed certainly does not meet the Secretary's Standards for New Construction in a historic district. Also, David Rochlen inquiry into how the historic chimney is preserved was important. It is also important to note that besides preserving the historic integrity, if the preservation of the swift's habitat is a concern, There is a strong opinion that they will abandon the chimney if taller structures are constructed close to the chimney.

I hope the commission will also look to preserving the other historic buildings on the site. The city has long neglected this site and are now claiming the structure currently there are not in a condition to be worth saving. However, there are people who think differently. They have ideas of ways to save some of the historic buildings and uses for them that would benefit the neighborhood and the city as a whole. I personally would hate for any more historic buildings to be destroyed, like the Art Deco parking structure on W. Washington and 1st, on the grounds that they can not be restored only to discover on demolition that they could have stood the test of time. The parking structure was historically significant not only locally but Nationally and was so well constructed it could have stood 100+ years.

I hope the HDC will continue to support it's mission to fight for preserving historic communities in Ann Arbor.

Thank you,
Elaine Neelands
514 Krause

Sent from my iPhone