

Introduced by: Councilmember Wright

RESOLUTION #2009-23

Resolution Opposing Adoption of Historic Preservation Amendment 09-01, the “Knapp Amendment”

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Historic District is the largest local historic district in Montgomery County; AND

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Historic District helps define the character of Takoma Park as a community, is highly valued by Takoma Park’s residents, and is an economic asset of the City of Takoma Park and of Montgomery County; AND

WHEREAS, for seventeen years, Montgomery County’s Historic Preservation Ordinance has proven to be an effective means of preserving the historic and architectural character of the Takoma Park Historic District and of the other historic districts in Montgomery County; AND

WHEREAS, Historic Preservation Amendment (HPA) 09-01, as proposed, includes significant changes to the Historic Preservation Ordinance’s administrative processes and criteria for the designation of properties as historic resources; AND

WHEREAS, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Maryland Historical Trust, the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission, Historic Takoma and others have identified legal difficulties with the processes proposed by HPA 09-01; AND

WHEREAS, the proposal to vary historic designation criteria based on the desires of the owner would undercut the integrity of the designation process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Takoma Park urges the Montgomery County Council to vote against Historic Preservation Amendment 09-01.

ADOPTED THIS 1st DAY OF JUNE, 2009.