



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Sandra I. Heiler
Chairman

September 4, 2019

Mayor Kate Stewart
Office of the City Council
7500 Maple Avenue
Takoma Park, Maryland 20912

Dear Mayor Stewart:

Thank you for your informative letter of August 26, 2019. I and the rest of the Historic Preservation Commission greatly appreciate your description of the open, fair, and deliberative process the City of Takoma Park has undertaken over many years in support of this important project.

I understand and fully agree that the City's process, as well as that of the HPC, allows for multiple perspectives to be shared on this project. Although the Commission hears all public testimony given at HPC meetings, the issues that are relevant to our deliberations are limited to compatibility of the proposed project with the architectural and environmental character of the historic district. In future meetings, I will remind everyone involved—Commissioners, the City's representative, and members of the public—what the purview of the HPC is and the purpose of the preliminary consultation.

The next meeting for this project will be a third preliminary consultation. The goal of the meeting is to move the case forward with actionable feedback and direction from the Commission. Members of the public are always welcome to testify at these hearings. However, I will recommend that they avoid repeating or dwelling on previous testimony (as Commissioners are well aware of the issues) and focus on any new, specific historic preservation issues that may be relevant for our review.

Very truly yours,

Sandra I. Heiler
Chair, Historic Preservation Commission





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Cc:

Gwen Wright, Montgomery County Planning Director
Suzanne Ludlow, City Manager of Takoma Park
HPC Members

