

From: [Priscella Holland](#)
To: [Historic District Commission \(Staff\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]I say yes! Permanent Approval for Detroit Waldorf Outdoor Classrooms
Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 11:15:51 AM

Dear reader,

I am a Detroit Waldorf parent, Detroit resident who's roots run deep in Detroit, and a physician-in-training in Detroit; thus, I have a sincere vested interest regarding the permanent approval of the Detroit Waldorf outdoor classrooms. My daughter started attending Waldorf last fall. It was one of the best decisions I have made for my daughter. Waldorf has consistently and intentionally made every effort to provide my child with an immersive and culturally considerate education. One of those decision was the creation of the outdoor classrooms to continue in-person education during the COVID pandemic. That decision allowed our children to continue to receive an education that wasn't impaired by technology and by social isolation that has been proven to be harmful tp the development of young children. Additionally, the outdoor classrooms now serve as an active area for education, growth, and community fellowship. Just this past week, Waldorf hosted a story-telling festival that allowed for many Detroiters from different backgrounds to share their unique stories. It was a beautiful salute to the history and culture of the city.

I am not exactly sure why the Historical District Commission would consider tearing down these structures, but I urge the commission to permanently approve these structures. I think it is important that we seek to continue to improve our neighborhoods and to seek new ways to innovate the spaces that we have. The creation of these shelters is a testament to what Detroiters are capable of and to what the future holds for Detroit. I haven't seen any other school in the Southeast Michigan or nationally take the initiative to create a similar space. It is not simply a park, or a playground for our children. It is a community center. An active space that was constructed professionally, with quality materials, and environmentally friendly. The foliage remains as it did prior to construction and view corridors were maintained. I would support future renovations and innovation into these spaces as well. This space should remain as innovative and evolve appropriately as Detroit does.

I love Detroit. I intend to raise my family here as my family did for generations. I hope to purchase a home in Island View soon. I am proud of the work that Detroit Waldorf has done for our families and the community, and I am proud of the creation of the outdoor classrooms. I implore the HDC to approve the outdoor classrooms for the community and generations to come.

Thank you for taking the time to read my message, and thank you for your dedication to Detroit.

Sincerely,
Priscella Holland

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