

**From:** [sarida.scott](#)  
**To:** [Historic District Commission \(Staff\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Justin Trombly](#); [Linda Williams](#); [Dianna Guldi](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]SUPPORT - Outdoor Classrooms -2555, 2508 - 2484 Burns- Indian Village HD  
**Date:** Monday, May 9, 2022 7:14:41 PM

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Greetings, Detroit Historic District Commission:

I am writing to convey my overwhelming support for the Outdoor Classrooms located at the Detroit Waldorf School, 2555, 2508-2484 Burns in Indian Village.

I am a Detroit resident, currently residing in the Gold Coast, adjacent to the West Village/Indian Village neighborhoods. I am also the parent of a Detroit Waldorf alum and member of the board. Additionally, I am a former City of Detroit Assistant Corporation Counsel who at one time provided legal support to the Historic District Commission. Currently, I serve as a Senior Program Officer for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, managing the Detroit Office.

The outdoor classrooms were erected in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Like many, the Detroit Waldorf School (DWS) community sought to find a safe way to facilitate in-person school. The shelters were professionally designed and built by parent volunteers. Much intentionality was taken to ensure integration into the school's outdoor environment.

The DWS property has been a school for many years, with DWS existing there for more than fifty (50). We have been a good steward of the property, ensuring its care not just for the school but the entire community. While a historic site, there is an understanding of how a school must continue to evolve to meet growing needs. However, the character of the school structure has remained beautiful and intact.

Additionally, a part of the shelter design was the understand of their potential use and opportunity for community. They have been well-received and have been used by others for programming, providing opportunities for community celebration, growth and engagement through hosting of festivals, plays, day camps, scouting groups, garden tours, art shows, and many other activities.

The shelters have also allowed DWS to continue to maintain enrollment and broaden its ability to serve the children of Detroit.

It is my sincere hope that this body understands the value that the Outdoor Classrooms bring not just to DWS but to the entire community and will grant permanent status.

Kind regards,

Sarida Scott  
313.433.3318

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