

1410 Nicolet Place
Detroit, Michigan 48207
May 13, 2025

Re: Detroit Thermal Application in the Lafayette Park Historic District

Dear City of Detroit Historic District Commissioners:

I have lived in the Lafayette Park Historic District neighborhood (Nicolet Co-op) for more than forty years. I am writing to state my opposition to Detroit Thermal's application for a project in my neighborhood because the work would irrevocably damage our landscape. Following are my reasons for objecting to their work:

- The project would kill and damage mature trees, shrubs and planting beds that define our historic landscape.
- The children's playground would be turned into a work site.
- The promise of "restoration-in-kind" would be impossible for landscaping that took 60 years of time, investment, and stewardship to develop.
- Detroit Thermal has cordoned off areas and worked here for more than seven months and has cut down most of a mature magnolia tree, damaged shrubs and flowers.
- Detroit Thermal has refused to meet with representatives from the neighborhood and has not provided information in response to our concerns.
- The installation of new steam vents and conducting deep excavation near the foundations of our historic development is deeply worrisome.

I am asking that the Detroit Historic District Commission reject Detroit Thermal's application to prevent it from irreparably harming our historic neighborhood.

Thank you so much for your consideration and commitment to serving the residents of Detroit and the preservation of its historic places.

Sincerely,

Loretta Ryder

Loretta Ryder
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