

**From:** [Carol Weisfeld](#)  
**To:** [Historic District Commission \(Staff\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Lafayette Park Historic District Application from Detroit Thermal  
**Date:** Sunday, May 11, 2025 3:11:54 PM

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Dear City of Detroit Historic District Commissioners,

The three of us (Glenn Weisfeld, Carol Weisfeld, and Miriam Weisfeld) want to express our deep and unwavering opposition to Detroit Thermal's proposed project on our property in the LaSalle Co-op, within the Mies van der Rohe Historic District. We want to explain why our opposition is so deeply felt. In 1977, Glenn and Carol bought a unit in the LaSalle Co-operative, on Joliet Place, precisely because the grounds and landscaping were such a rare urban jewel. In 2013, Glenn and Carol sold the two-story unit, and purchased a one-story unit, still in the LaSalle Co-op, hoping to stay in the neighborhood to enjoy retirement and old age in the same community. In the intervening years, Miriam spent her childhood and adolescence growing up here, and attending Chrysler School. It's been 48 years now that we have loved this district. We know every inch of the walking paths, playgrounds and plantings. We have served on the Co-op Board, and supported every investment in our grounds and facilities. We worked hard to support the movement to achieve Historic Designation, appearing several times before you (and your predecessors) on the Commission. Between 1998 and 2004, we also appeared before you many times, to oppose turning the Detroit Riverfront into a casino district, and to voice support for the award-winning Riverwalk that now exists between the Ambassador Bridge and the Belle Isle Bridge. We are here again, by letter if not in person, to appeal to the Commission to offer every protection to our district, which is identified now on multiple historic registers due to its historic significance.

We understand that Detroit Thermal has undertaken a project that involves the simplest access to the old steam lines, no matter how much destruction is caused above ground in our district. They seem to think that, as long as they don't destroy a building, there's no problem. This flies in the face of why we are a historic landmark district - the overall design is the genius, and the walkways and 60-year-old trees are part of the design. Surely an international company with their expertise can find creative solutions that work around those key elements in the overall design of Lafayette Park. Does Detroit Thermal not really have the expertise and credibility that they claim to have?

We strongly urge you to deny permission to proceed with the current project that Detroit Thermal has proposed. We urge you to encourage Detroit Thermal to reconsider, and to come up with a better way. We very much appreciate your asking for our input, and we thank you for your commitment to historic preservation in our community.

Sincerely,

Glenn, Carol and Miriam Weisfeld

1334 Joliet Place (formerly)

1326 Joliet Place (current residence for Glenn and Carol)

