

**From:** [Nancy Wurm](#)  
**To:** [Historic District Commission \(Staff\)](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Lafayette Park Historic District Application from Detroit Thermal  
**Date:** Monday, May 12, 2025 9:48:40 PM

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To the Historic District Commissioners of Detroit:

My husband was born and raised in Detroit, and loves this city. We moved into the historic Lafayette Park Mies van de Rohe Co-op 5 years ago, and have enjoyed every minute of living here. We are permaculturists, passionate about the ecosystem of this community and its ability to positively impact the surrounding neighborhoods. For example, the 60-year-old trees and flowering bushes provide clean air, create beauty and reduce noise pollution well beyond our borders. In recent years, we initiated a composting program, instituted no-mow-May (supporting the bee population), added groundcover to prevent soil erosion into the groundwater, and are currently researching options for the use of greywater for outdoor irrigation. All this allows us to give back to the city from this historic district by focusing on environmentally-conscious living and community interconnectedness.

I'm writing with frustration over how Detroit Thermal has disrupted and damaged the patterns and processes of sustainable agriculture here in our neighborhood (which negatively impacts the surrounding area). I'm deeply concerned over their project plans which will destroy historic trees, plants, soil microbes and water flow. Their project's impact will greatly reduce and weaken the historic landscape design of this property, perhaps to an unrecognizable, unreturnable state.

Please take time to study what Detroit Thermal is proposing, and what is missing from their plan (care of/recovery of the historic land use). Please study and evaluate the good options which exist close by; options that would greatly lessen the devastation on this historic district and allow for the needs of our neighbors in the 1300 building to be satisfied.

Thank you for all you do to make Detroit great. We appreciate you.

Nancy and Joe Wurm  
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Sent from my iPad