

From: [Laura J. Davis](#)
To: [Historic District Commission \(Staff\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Detroit Thermal Application in the Lafayette Park Historic District
Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 8:44:36 AM

Dear City of Detroit Historic District Commissioners,

I am a resident of the Lafayette Park Historic District, and I strongly oppose Detroit Thermal's proposed project in our neighborhood. This project poses a direct threat to the historic integrity of our National Historic Landmark district.

The proposed work will destroy mature trees, shrubs, and plantings that define our historic landscape. The project's plans label these areas as "disturbance" with "restoration in-kind," but a 60-year-old landscape cannot simply be restored. It has taken decades of care and investment to reach its current state, and these vital features cannot be replaced.

Detroit Thermal's disregard for our neighborhood's history is not just reflected in the plans, but also in their actions over the past seven months. They've damaged a mature magnolia tree and destroyed plants without any meaningful engagement with the community. Furthermore, the project includes deep excavation near our historic homes and the installation of new steam vents, which could further harm the neighborhood's historic character and structural integrity.

I urge the Detroit Historic District Commission to reject this application to preserve the integrity of our historic neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and commitment to preserving Detroit's historic landmarks.

Sincerely,

Laura Davis

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