

From: [Meagan Hone](#)
To: [Historic District Commission \(Staff\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lafayette Park Historic District Application from Detroit Thermal
Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 10:50:38 AM

City of Detroit Historic District Commissioners,

I am a resident of the Lafayette Park Historic District neighborhood. I am writing to state my strong opposition to Detroit Thermal's application for a project in the Lafayette Park Historic District. I oppose the project because it would irrevocably damage my neighborhood's historic landscape, which is central to our **National Historic Landmark designation**.

The proposed project would generate a significant adverse effect on the historic landscape of my neighborhood. Project plans acknowledge damage to the landscape as the entire area is labeled as "disturbance" with "restoration in kind". Our 60 year old landscape of mature trees cannot be "restored". It took 60 years of time, investment, and stewardship to become what it is today.

The plans submitted for this project by Detroit Thermal demonstrate its lack of understanding and respect for my neighborhood's historic status. These plans were developed with no input or engagement from me or my neighborhood. Detroit Thermal has been working in my neighborhood for more than 7 months. During that time it has cut down most of a mature magnolia tree, damaged shrubs and flowers, and has refused to meet with me and/or provide information to my neighborhood in response to our concerns.

I am also concerned the project could damage the historic character of our neighborhood in other ways, including by installing new steam vents and conducting deep excavation near the foundations of our historic homes. I have no confidence that the impact on our historic neighborhood was considered in the development of these plans.

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 kindly for your time and your commitment to serving the residents of Detroit and preserving the city's historic places.

Sincerely,
Meagan Hone
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Detroit, MI 48207