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**[EXTERNAL] Lafayette Park Historic District Application from Detroit Thermal**

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**From** Patricia Keresztes <pkeresztes62@gmail.com>

**Date** Mon 6/30/2025 11:07 PM

**To** Historic District Commission (Staff) <hdc@detroitmi.gov>

Sent from my iPhone

Dear 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 currently proposed project and hope an alternate plan could be developed.

The current plan would irrevocably damage my neighborhood's historic landscape, which is a central component of my neighborhood's National Historic Landmark designation.

The current project is not historically appropriate.

Detroit Thermal acknowledges that the project will kill and damage mature trees, shrubs, and planting beds that define our landscape. However it's incomplete as well as inaccurate. It contains at least 21 errors where 50 foot mature trees are missing and mislabeled as shrubs or under identified in size. Not only will this have a significant adverse effect on the total landscape so vital to our historical designation, it will impact at least 22 mature trees.

Additionally, Detroit Thermal's own plans identify 47 mature trees in the project area and propose removing mature trees, shrubs, and raised beds in our community

The project plans to convert the most sensitive and most beloved portion of our historic landscape into a work site.

The landscape took 60 years of investment, care and diligence to become what it is today.

It cannot be replaced.

Despite promising to meet with our neighborhood after the public hearing on May 14th, Detroit Thermal developed and submitted new plans with no input or engagement from residents in our neighborhood.

I am also concerned that 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. Confidence is low that the impact on our historical neighborhood was taken into consideration.

I am asking that the Detroit Historic District Commission reject Detroit Thermal's current application which is not historically appropriate, and prevent it from irreparably harming the Lafayette Park Historic District.

Thank you kindly for your time and your commitment to serving the residents of Detroit and preserving

the city's historic places.

Sincerely,  
P Keresztes  
1357 Joliet PL  
Detroit, MI 48207

Sent from my iPhone