



Outlook

[EXTERNAL] Lafayette Park Historic District Application from Detroit Thermal - Raymond Prost

From Jessica Prost <jessicalprost@gmail.com>

Date Tue 7/1/2025 9:28 PM

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

Dear HDC,

My name is Raymond Prost and I've been a member and a board member of the LaSalle co-op for 6 years. Before that, my wife and I would walk the grounds, hoping to live here one day because of the architecture and landscape. Our children now play at the playground.

In the time we have lived here, countless friends and family have visited and remarked about our view of the trees. We've thoughtfully explained that both the landscaping and architecture are historic, often referencing 'Thanks for the view, mr. mies' which is a book that reflects just that, 'the view'. The architecture here is simply a vessel for the view. Our homes open up to the sky, the trees and the landscape, and the trees are a main reason why we have been honored with the historic designation.

The reason I bring up the trees, is because of the work that Detroit Thermal is doing targeting our neighborhood. They could have planned to go around it, not just the first time, but the second time - when they promised to look into alternative pathways for their steam project. It appears, having seen their latest proposal, that they have ignored our requests, and are adding unnecessary stress to the 1300 building's tenants who very much need heat. All of us - the city, the neighborhood, and Detroit Thermal know that there are alternative ways to tap into the steam pipes to heat 1300, and they are failing the tenants of this building by dragging their feet to find an appropriate solution.

It is my hope that we can work together to find a way to get our neighbors heat that doesn't require the destruction of a mature tree canopy, our property value and the beautiful historic landscape that we all call home.

Thank you,
Raymond and Jessica Prost
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