

OFFICERS

John Philip Donisi
President
Julian Read
President-Elect
Mandy Dealey
First Vice President
Betsy Christian
Second Vice President

Susan Wittliff
Secretary
Kristen Wicke
Treasurer
Dennis McDaniel
Immediate Past President

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Betty Baker
Kent Collins
Matt Curtis
Rebecca Nelson Davis
Sharon Dunn
Amy Erben
Sandra Frazier
Connie Green

Kate Hersch
Dealey Herndon
Courtney Hoffman
Dennis Karbach
Amy Hornaday
John Mayfield
Rosemary Morrow
Tere O'Connell

VOTING REPRESENTATIVES

Michael Holleran, UT School of Arch.
Sabrina Brown, Inherit Austin
Austin History Center Assoc.
Mike Ward, Pioneer Farms

STAFF

Jacqui Schraad
Executive Director
Lori Martin
Antiques Show Director

July 28, 2008

Laurie Limbacher, Chair
and Commission Members
Historic Landmark Commission
City of Austin
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78768

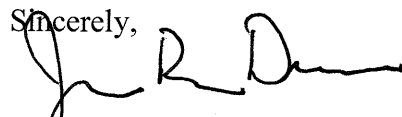
Dear Madam Chair and Commission Members:

The Heritage Society of Austin respectfully urges your guidance and support to the ownership of 316 Congress Avenue in their efforts to accommodate retail use in the W.B. Smith Building. We understand that the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) initially determined that the building's historic doors did not meet accessibility standards. It is the intent of the landowner and the tenant, Patagonia, that the architectural integrity of the doors be maintained, while providing a fully accessible retail space.

In 2005, the Heritage Society of Austin successfully nominated Congress Avenue to Preservation Texas' Most Endangered Places list, citing loss of historic fabric and languishing retail presence. We have been pleased and encouraged at the recent influx of new and incoming retail tenants, including JoS. A. Bank, Keepers and Patagonia. We ask the Historic Landmark Commission to postpone any pending decisions on the W.B. Smith building to allow TDLR to make a final ruling on the variance request, which the owners are pursuing to maintain the architectural integrity of the building.

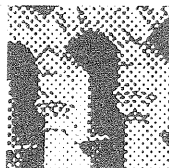
The Heritage Society of Austin wants to see Congress Avenue return to its prominence as the Main Street of Texas. We appreciate all your attention to this most important historic district, and all that you do to protect what is best about our city.

Sincerely,



John Philip Donisi
President

www.heritagesocietyaustin.org
information@hsaustin.org



HERITAGE
SOCIETY OF
AUSTIN

P.O. BOX 2113
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768
512-474-5198
FAX 512-476-8687

**WATERLOO PRESIDENT'S
COUNCIL**

James Armstrong & Larry Connolly
Jannis & Robert Baldwin
Penny & Dan Burck
Ann Butler
June & Mark Chandler
Cissie & Dillon Ferguson
Donna & Steve Hicks
Regan & William Gammon, III
Connie & Allen Green
Jan Bullock & Robert Green
Dealey & David Herndon
Courtney & Clark Hoffman
Meta Butler Hunt
Judith & Lewis Jones
Roger Joseph
Lowell Lebermann, Jr.
Sue Brandt McBee
Leslie & Steve McConnico
Andrea & Dean McWilliams
Emily Moreland
Betty & William Nowlin
C. Patrick Oles, Jr.
Stanya & James Owen
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Parker
Cheryl & Walt Penn
Gay & Shannon Ratliff
Vickie Roan
Cheryl & John Sauder
Sue & C. Aubrey Smith, Jr.
Louann & Larry Temple
Bobbi & Morton Topfer
Elisabeth & Steffen Waltz
Betty & Jim Wilson
David Wilson
Eva & Marvin Womack