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December 8, 2008

Chairman Dave Sullivan and Commission Members
Planning Commission
City of Austin
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78768

Re: Case No. C14-1997-0008; The Norwood House

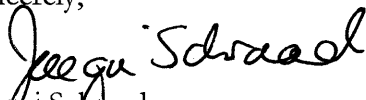
Dear Chairman Sullivan and Members,

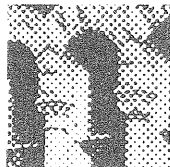
The Heritage Society of Austin requests your support for the historic zoning of the Norwood House property located at 1012 Edgecliff Drive. This is a somewhat unique historic zoning case in that its objective is not to ensure the structure remain in its current appearance and state, but to better allow it to be properly restored to its former prominence.

The Norwood House has a significant history that is well-chronicled in your backup materials. It also has a long history as a restoration project. Originally relocated in an effort to accommodate potential development yet save the structure, the House returned – minus a number of its original elements -- to the bluff along Lady Bird Lake to grace City-owned parkland. A number of well-intentioned plans to restore the House to its original character and prominence unfortunately stalled, but the effort has been revived with the enthusiasm and determination of the 'Norwood Posse' to save this Austin treasure.

The Heritage Society commends this effort, and the House and property will be better-positioned to receive much-needed public and private funding with historic zoning. We believe the restoration of this long neglected structure will result in a wonderful asset to our city and will preserve an important piece of Austin's history.

Sincerely,


Jacqui Schraad
Executive Director



HERITAGE
SOCIETY OF
AUSTIN

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