

HISTORIC
**DOWNER
AVENUE**
EASTSIDE

Downer Avenue BID #41

Ms. Linda Elmer
City of Milwaukee
The Office of the City Clerk

via email - lelmer@milwaukee.gov

RE: In Support of HPC File #220279, St. Mark's Church and Apartment Certificate of Appropriateness

Dear Ms. Elmer,

On behalf of the Downer Avenue Business Improvement District Board of Directors, I am writing in support of the aforementioned project and urge its approval at the Historic Preservation Committee.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on June 22nd, 2022 at Canela Café on Downer Avenue, the Board heard a presentation on the project from the Developer, Michael DeMichele. Several questions were asked and answered and after some discussion, and a recusal on the vote by members Michael DeMichele and Jeff Bentoff, the balance of the board voted unanimously to support the project.

The board felt the project was historically sensitive to its own block and others in the neighborhood. That the materials used, scale and design was complementary to the district and other historic buildings in the area. The Board also felt the density was appropriate and good for the district and would help support the local business and our walking friendly community.

The Downer BID Number 41 also wishes to recognize St. Marks Church as a good friend and neighbor and supports its sustainability and needs in demolition of the existing outdated and obsolete parish hall, feels the proposed parish hall would be an improvement and beautify the neighborhood, and the project overall would provide better land utilization, including the existing underutilized existing parking garage instead of a small surface parking lot.

Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,
Downer BID Board of Directors

Michael O'Connor
Vice President