From:	Historic Preservation Commission
To:	Elmer, Linda
Subject:	FW: Goll Mansion Project
Date:	Monday, June 20, 2016 10:45:02 AM

From: JMB515@aol.com [mailto:JMB515@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2016 7:36 PM
To: Bauman, Robert; Mayor Tom Barrett; Marcoux, Rocky; Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: Goll Mansion Project

Gentlemen,

I believe it is a vital function of Milwaukee City elected officials and the Historic Preservation Commission to protect the city's historic buildings. Just as the city and it's citizens spent millions of dollars to preserve the City Hall from crumbling to the sidewalk and street, it is also important to protect the buildings and homes that made Milwaukee what it is today. I can walk down Prospect Avenue and enjoy the efforts of organizations and individual property owners efforts in preserving the heritage and history by preserving our older magnificent homes. Some have been converted to museums such as the Charles Allis and Villa Terrace homes. Others have been tastefully restored and used as commercial real estate. These can be seen on Prospect and Juneau and Prospect and Brady. These are just a few that we can be proud of and are indeed enjoyed by visitors and citizens of the city alike. They now house law offices and other businesses very happy to have space is our historic city homes. There is also the Milwaukee Music Conservatory which was an old mansion put to a good use and preserving the city's historic past. The most recent addition of the Mexican Consulate in an old home on Prospect next to the Renaissance Place shows the demand for these historical homes. The Renaissance Place itself was a house of worship converted to a hall utilized for many functions enjoyed by Milwaukee citizens. The city can not loose one of these historical buildings to a wrecking ball or converted to an eyesore by attaching it to a modern high rise residence.

The current plans are to move the Goll Mansion residence closer to Prospect Avenue to allow for the construction of the new high rise. If the building becomes unstable or destroyed during the massive move, what will the supporters say? They will say nothing because they only care about making money with the high rise and are having problems with the historical designation the Goll Mansion currently has; they just do not care. Would the City attach a high rise to the Pabst Mansion? How about the historic Milwaukee City Hall?

In the past few years there have been five major high rise residences constructed on or very close to Prospect Avenue with another planned for Prospect Avenue next to the Jewish Museum. Further on down Prospect there is the twin tower Lafayette Place which is still not completely filled and was only finished under bankruptcy law. The 1522 On The Lake facility completed just over ten years ago is right next to the proposed Gall Mansion Project.

The idea of attaching the old Goll Mansion to a modern high rise apartment or condominium to use as an entrance is anything but building preservation. Using the Goll Mansion as an entrance is nothing more than the developer's gimmick to get past the Goll Mansions designation as a historical city home and make a huge profit at the expense of our history.

Please do not let this happen to one of our treasures. It is the responsibility of the City of Milwaukee officials and the Historic Preservation Committee to protect what can not protect itself. The Goll Mansion is equally important as the city hall and is on a very historic street in the city. If this is allowed to happen, it wont be long and the owner will find an excuse to totally rid the new structure of the old mansion, if it indeed does not get destroyed during the proposed moving of the building.

Last summer during Summerfest, I was walking down Prospect and had a group of out of town people here for the event stop me and ask about the names and history of some of the older homes. The entire group praised the city for taking an interest in preserving these old houses. We were at the corner of Brady and Prospect and they mentioned several houses they had passed and mentioned the old home which is now an eye doctors offices and the older home across the street which was then currently having a facelift. I would hate for them to hear about the pending plans to turn a historical mansion into apartment just for the monetary gain of a developer, construction company and a larger tax base.

Last year, I also read in the news that a National Organization of Municipal Governments named Milwaukee as the worst managed city in the country. Please do not let this happen again. Take this opportunity to stand up for our city and vote for what is right for the heritage and history of our city. To paraphrase an old quotation "ask not what your city can do for you, but ask what you can do for your city".

Respectfully yours,

John M. Bohler
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