

Lee, Chris

From: Steven Duback <sruback@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 4:07 PM
To: Lee, Chris
Cc: Kovac, Nik; Perez, Jose; Hamilton, Ashanti; Coggs, Milele; Dimitrijevic, Marina; rbauman@milwaukee.gov
Subject: Permanent Historic Designation of Columbia Hospital

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To: Chris Lee (ZND Committee Staff Assistant)

CC: Alds. Perez, Hamilton, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Baumen and Kovac

From: Steven R. Duback, 3342 N. Shepard Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211

RE: File 211686; Permanent Historic Designation of Columbia Hospital (Northwest Quadrant Building A) – April 12, 2022 ZND meeting

Date: April 8, 2022

I write as a UWM near neighbor and longtime resident of Milwaukee's East Side to make 4 brief points:

1. The Columbia Hospital building(s) at issue here are quite obviously historically significant both from an architectural standpoint and from their role in the development of modern day medical science and practice. Whether it is practical from an economic standpoint to preserve them, no doubt involves a difficult balancing of competing interests.

2. The question of what to do with the 1919 and related Columbia Hospital buildings deserves a thoughtful, deliberative and inclusive discussion which includes the broader public - not a rushed process. To date, that kind of thoughtful process has not been completed.

3. There may be compromises that can be reached through further discussions between historic preservation advocates and UWM, e.g. preserve and renovate just the original 1919 building but raze all the other hospital buildings at issue.

4. The best way to handle this dispute going forward is for the ZND Committee and the Common Council to first make a permanent historic preservation designation of the Columbia Hospital buildings at issue. Then, a carefully thought out public process should be established whereby the broader public will have an opportunity to weigh in via an unrushed, thorough and thoughtful discussion among all interested parties.

Thank you.