

262/ N Summit Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53211
07/09/22

Historic Preservation Commission
841 N. Broadway, Room B-1
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Historic Preservation Commission,

I am writing to state my opposition to the proposed apartment complex on the 2600 block of N Hackett Ave between St. Marks and Church in the City. I oppose this for how the proposed building would fit the neighborhood as well as past standards I have dealt with from the HPC.

The size of the proposed building does not fit the surrounding residence and would dwarf them. It would be taller than any other neighboring residence. Allowing the zoning change to build a residence large than any of the neighboring buildings sets a precedent that may dramatically alter the aesthetic of the neighborhood. The zoning change may also allow for even taller buildings in the future, further dwarfing the existing homes.

The facade of the building is not in keeping with the appearances of the neighborhood. The proposed bricks are double the normal width of the surrounding buildings. The color is also only matched to the front facade and a portion of the sides. The majority of the building is done in a gray modern masonry. In the past I had tried to install a metal roof that was made to look like wood shingles, which was more in keeping with the original roof of our home. The HPC shot the idea down on the first phone call before a proposal was even made due to the material being metal, never mind the actual appearance of it. To allow the proposed facade is a double standard. Even the windows are modern metal framed windows that do not match the surrounding neighborhood.

I do not support the loss of more green space. If further housing is the cited need, there is an empty paved lot that has sat unused for the better part of twenty years, two blocks South of the proposed apartment. A developer hoping to do good work for the community would have an excellent opportunity making use of the paved lot rather than the green space.

The size, modern facade, and loss of green space are a poor direction for the neighborhood. Please take these into consideration when making your decision on the this proposed project.

Sincerely,

Eric Pitt