

## Bass, Kelly

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**Subject:** FW: Demolition by Neglect & Willy St

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**From:** Sharon Kilfoy [<mailto:sharon@willyart.net>]

**Sent:** Monday, June 05, 2017 9:03 AM

**To:** Scanlon, Amy

**Cc:** 'John Martens'

**Subject:** Demolition by Neglect & Willy St

Hi Amy,

I am intending to not attend the Landmarks Commission meeting this afternoon for a number of reasons. However:

- I believe the ordinance is clear – demolition by neglect is not allowed in a Landmark district. Period.
- If the building inspection folks are willing to condemn, let them do so – **but do not vote to have Landmarks go against its own code.**
- By not enforcing ordinances as written, the commission pits neighbor against neighbor. Having Brandon Cook working on the house next door to mine at 1020 Williamson St during an extremely traumatic time following the fire at my property was a godsend. He helped me immensely – so I do not want to testify against his project down the street – next door to my boyfriend's property. Do you see my dilemma?
- But the commission should be above making decisions based on personality – and interpret the ordinance fairly – as it applies in this situation – but perhaps even more importantly – as it will apply to other situations to follow.
- John Martens is, of course, right in his analysis of the ordinance and its' application. If anyone doubts this – they need to review the ordinance and the current situation.
- Also, of perhaps equal importance – is the way the Landmarks Commission looks at individual projects on my street. We are a historic district because of THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BUILDINGS - not because of the individual buildings. Most of the buildings on Willy Street are really just shitty little buildings – nothing special architecturally in and of themselves. We have been granted Landmarks status because of the RYTHYM of all these little not-important-in-and-of-themselves buildings.
- And yet, you look at these projects individually – not as they relate to the entire street. One-by-one you are allowing these unimportant-yet-unique buildings to be replaced by bigger buildings that – at best – are mediocre – as the one being proposed for 801 Williamson. And do I like calling a design by another neighbor mediocre? No, of course not – but if the commission were doing its job, you too would understand why the design for this building – not to mention its scale – is inappropriate for the site.
- I worry about the implications for the rest of Willy St – especially the 1100 block – and its plethora of small unimportant buildings – if the commission is not going to start looking at this street in its totality. What, exactly, are you trying to preserve here?
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Thanks – please make sure this is forwarded to the commission members.

Sharon Kilfoy

Director



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