

**From:** [Jan McCay](#)  
**To:** [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Diner at Colfax and Pearl  
**Date:** Thursday, July 18, 2019 6:27:32 AM

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Slowly we are letting go of iconic landmarks to make way for less pleasing boxes of architecture. We no longer value what is old... and when we have torn down all the past memories of places that brought smiles of a time that use to be, the world we live in now loses.

Yes, it's a small diner, but you won't find it ever again. The architecture that brought the neighborhood together over a cup of coffee to discuss life, love and maybe even politics. A gathering place. When people gather in places such as this things can change. I don't know what you want to put up there, I can only imagine it's more apartments that will be built half as well as the old diner and have half the influence on the neighborhood.

Thanks

Jan McCay  
Denver, Colorado

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Adam E](#)  
**To:** [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to hostile designation of Tom's Diner  
**Date:** Thursday, July 18, 2019 11:33:20 AM

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To the Landmark Board,

The application for Tom's Diner is an improper use of the landmark ordinance and should be rejected. The Diner's use as a restaurant and the nostalgia the applicants feel for eating there can't be separated from the application. Since the owner does not wish to continue operating a diner, and the applicants do not wish to buy the property to keep the diner, this is not an eligible criteria. Tom's Diner will be gone no matter which way this application goes.

Second, while the "Googie" style is indeed distinct, it stretches credulity to claim that this mass produced structure is somehow a valuable piece of architecture. Many far more unique and interesting structures from this time period exist in our city. This building isn't even the original White Spot, and contains virtually nothing that connects it back to that era. Will we be deeming Chili's buildings and Outback Steakhouses as landmarks in 40 years simply because of age?

Finally, another pillar of this application is the hostility towards the construction of housing by the applicants, who mostly live really far away. Many members of our community have tried to taint the landmark process as a way to stop buildings from being built, rather than as a means of preserving our history. I do not believe opposition to the content of a future project makes a building a landmark.

I hope you will reject this application.

Adam Estroff  
361 Elati St, Denver, CO 80223

**From:** [Amy Wagner](#)  
**To:** [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Tom's diner  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 4:18:48 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I am a lifelong Colorado resident and have been a resident of Denver for over four years. I concur with many members of our community who wish to seek a preservation-minded solution for the historic Tom's Diner at 601 E Colfax Avenue. I also want to show my support for keeping the city's historical, cultural, and architectural landmarks in mind as Denver changes every day.

Sincerely,

Amy Wagner

**From:** [Bradley Cameron](#)  
**To:** [Cappeto, Jennifer E. - CPD City Planning Manager](#); [Hahn, Kara L. - CPD City Planner Principal](#)  
**Cc:** [Michael Henry](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support letter for application for designation for Tom's Diner  
**Date:** Thursday, July 18, 2019 11:34:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [Tom's Diner support letter \(1\).pdf](#)

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To: Jennifer Cappeto and Kara Hahn - LPC Staff

From: Brad Cameron - Neighbors for Greater Capitol Hill

Attached is a letter of support for the Tom's Diner landmark application. Please do what you can to distribute it to members of the Landmark Preservation Commission in advance of the 7/23 hearing.

This was also sent a couple of days ago to your office, but was in a difficult-to-use format. My apologies for any confusion.

Please let me know if any questions. Thanks!

Brad Cameron (303/832-4282)

cc: Michael Henry



NEIGHBORS  
FOR  
GREATER  
CAPITOL HILL

July 16, 2019

Denver Landmark Preservation Commission  
201 West Colfax  
Denver, CO 80202

RE: Tom's Diner

Dear Members of the Landmark Preservation Commission:

Neighbors for Greater Capitol Hill is a newly-registered neighborhood organization (representing the area bounded by Broadway, East 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, York/Josephine and approximately East 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue). By a unanimous vote of our Historic Preservation Committee on June 24, 2019 and of our board of directors on June 26, 2019, Neighbors for Greater Capitol Hill supports the designation of Tom's Diner at 601 East Colfax Avenue as a structure for preservation.

The structure, designed by the California architectural firm of Armet and Davis, was built in 1967 as a White Spot Diner operated by William Clements. It is an excellent example of Googie architecture and 24-hour diner use, both of which are now rare in Denver. This White Spot (now Tom's Diner), during the 1960s to the present has provided a safe, comfortable, hospitable gathering place for the wide spectrum of diverse persons who frequent East Colfax, including high-school and college students, businesspersons, elderly citizens, homeless persons, LGBTQ individuals, concert attendees and police officers.

The keeper of the National Register of Historic Places determined Tom's Diner to be eligible for the National Register on September 24, 2009.

We urge the LPC to recommend designation of Tom's Diner to City Council.

Sincerely,

Bradley Cameron, President

**From:** [Sophie Bieluczyk](#)  
**To:** [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tom's Diner  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:07:43 PM

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Hello Commissioners,

I care about the future of Tom's Diner.

As a history and architecture nerd I was delighted to learn of Tom's Diner's history as part of William F. Clements' White Spot chain, its relationship to the car culture of the post-WWII era, and its design by the architectural firm of Armet and Davis.

But, as an almost ten-year resident of Capitol Hill, I simply like the building. I love that the building's design is still futuristic and playful in 2019. Tom's Diner is eye-catching as one drives down Colfax Avenue, much like a sighting of a gray wolf or lynx here in Colorado. I truly appreciate the perfect blending of materials in the building's façade. I wish Tom's Diner's combination of glass, stone, and brick would be skillfully replicated in today's many new buildings in the City and County of Denver. I love that Tom's Diner still upholds new ideas from the 1950's, such as family dining, convenience, and 24-hour dining.

I live three blocks from Tom's Diner and I would miss the familiar building if it was demolished. Plus, I'm used to telling people, "take a right onto Washington right after passing Tom's." I believe that Tom's Diner is an integral part of our disappearing cityscape and I urge you to recommend the building to City Council for historic designation.

Best,  
Sophie Bieluczyk  
720 E. 12th Avenue  
Denver, CO 80203