

From: [S. Hayden](#)
To: [dencc - City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill No. 22-1472
Date: Monday, December 12, 2022 2:57:31 PM

City Council Members,

I appreciate the opportunity to provide public testimony regarding Bill No. 22-1472. While I fully SUPPORT the ordinance designating 401 North Madison Street "as a structure for preservation," I will spare you a reiteration of the the merits articulated in the Individual Landmark Designation Application as recommended for approval by a unanimous vote of the Landmark Preservation Commission. Instead, I encourage you to take a nuanced political approach to an otherwise polarizing issue.

Please separate your consideration of whether or not the structure meets the criteria for Landmark status from the extrinsic concerns of the structure's use, aesthetics, or physical condition. A Landmark can be "abandoned," "an eyesore," or "derelict." If you find such extrinsic concerns compelling, perhaps a Landmark can be destroyed too. Perhaps you can recognize the merits, support the bill, and (if you must) make a special exception to permit the removal of the structure.

Gratefully,

Stuart Hayden

2525 Grape Street
Denver, CO 80207

From: [Robert Bassett](#)
To: [dence - City Council](#); [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#)
Cc: [Black, Kendra A. - CC Member District 4 Denver City Council](#); [Flynn, Kevin J. - CC Member District 2 Denver City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Crowther House
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 7:32:53 PM
Attachments: [Crowther House Designation.pdf](#)

Dear Council,

Please see the attached letter.

I am writing to you as the former Board Chair of Historic Denver in support of landmark designation for 401 Madison, the Crowther residence.

Other experts have explained to Council the historical significance of this structure and of its architect Richard Crowther. Significantly, the experts at Denver's Landmark Commission and its staff support this designation.

Only Denver can tell the story of Richard Crowther and of his groundbreaking architectural work. We all share a responsibility to recognize these contributions to our fine city.

Council has an important responsibility to today's citizens of Denver and to the future generations of residents to preserve artifacts of this importance.

Please demonstrate your leadership by voting to oppose the destruction of this rare, important asset.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Bassett

BassettLawColorado@gmail.com

3029 S. Detroit Way

Denver, 80210

From: [Ann Mullins](#)
To: [dence - City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Crowther House
Date: Friday, December 9, 2022 4:06:45 PM

Dear Denver City Council,

I'm writing as a former resident who, like you, wants to enhance and protect what makes Denver a great place to live and work. In a fast-growing city one of the most tangible, demonstrable contributions you will make surrounds what we do with current spaces; our buildings. Committing to environmental stewardship and creative housing solutions requires leadership to decide not just what we build, but what we tear down. What we preserve is what we value.

Therefore, there should be no dispute that the Crowther residence at 401 Madison should become a designated landmark. Experts and informed citizens agree. Of course, there's the usual and expected disagreement from a developer who wants a return on investment and neighbors who are tired of an eyesore. I'm keenly aware of the (seemingly) opposing interests you must consider.

But what's unusual and less obvious is the backstory, the intangible asset, and the degree of attention this threatened house continues to get locally and nationally.

The Crowther House is one of the nation's earliest experiments in environmental housing. The visionary who built it was a pioneer in residential solar architecture long before it became a public passion. Crowther wrote the book on building with environmental stewardship and was internationally renowned. How fortunate that this living laboratory is in Denver, and was also his primary residence! I can't fathom a moral justification to ignore this legacy! Especially if for the sake of short-term interests that could still be met.

Crowther's contributions will outlive us, his legacy is indestructible. Unfortunately, his house is not. The potential value in a landmark-worthy solar house is undisputed. Crowther's house told a story people want to hear. Only Denver can tell that story and therefore we must.

With some restoration and ingenuity this landmarked house will bring greater return on the developer and neighbors' property investments. Eventually, it's likely to foster a sense of pride that makes a neighborhood more desirable. Unoriginal architecture with false history will never command this added value.

It is without question, a win-win decision to give this house a future. You have an important responsibility to the invisible stakeholder, the future generations of residents who will inherit the decision you will make today.

I am asking for your leadership with your vote to oppose the destruction of this rare, important asset.

Sincerely,

Ann Mullins

216 W Hyman Ave.

Aspen, CO 81611

Ann Mullins
216 W Hyman Ave.
Aspen, CO 81611
970.925.7559

From: [SHERRY GRAHAM](#)
To: [Landmark - Community Planning and Development; denc - City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Crowther Plea
Date: Sunday, December 11, 2022 3:53:55 PM
Attachments: [Dear City Council. local resident.docx](#)

Please forward my request to the proper person's. This is in regards to the plea for Crowther Landmark.

Sherry Graham
84 Spruce St., 502
Denver, CO 80230

From: [Kathryn Oberdorfer](#)
To: [dencc - City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Crowther Residence-Historic Landmark
Date: Friday, December 9, 2022 3:44:49 PM

Dear Denver City Council,

I'm writing as a resident who, like you, wants to enhance and protect what makes Denver a great place to live and work. In a fast-growing city one of the most tangible, demonstrable contributions you will make surrounds what we do with current spaces; our buildings. Committing to environmental stewardship and creative housing solutions requires leadership to decide not just what we build, but what we tear down. What we preserve is what we value.

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With some restoration and ingenuity this landmarked house will bring greater return on the developer and neighbors' property investments. Eventually, it's likely to foster a sense of pride that makes a neighborhood more desirable. Unoriginal architecture with false history will never command this added value.

It is without question, a win-win decision to give this house a future. You have an important responsibility to the invisible stakeholder, the future generations of residents who will inherit the decision you will make today.

I am asking for your leadership with your vote to oppose the destruction of this rare, important asset.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Oberdorfer

4629 E. Cedar Ave

Denver 80246

From: [DeeDee LeGrand](#)
To: [denc - City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] On behalf of my fellow citizens
Date: Monday, December 12, 2022 3:00:38 PM

Dear City Council,

I've been asked an important question I couldn't answer when the Crowther house comes up. The vast majority thought the matter was settled when the Landmark Commission decided it's worthy of landmarking. I couldn't explain why we would over ride their time an expertise. They learned this too late because the developer didn't want them to notice they were going to raze a landmark and they're appalled that experts' opinions(as well as theirs) could be ignored.

People are concerned because this isn't a bad haircut that can grow back. The lot will look bald if anything else goes there that doesn't honor Crowther's home and legacy.

DeeDee LeGrand
720.353.3053

From: [Marsha Tharakan](#)
To: [dencc - City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please support the historic designation of the Crowther residence (401 Madison)
Date: Sunday, December 11, 2022 7:33:32 PM

Dear Denver City Council,

I live in the 7th Ave Historic neighborhood. I am writing to ask you to please support the historic designation of the Crowther residence at 401 Madison. Experts in historic landmark support this designation (Denver Landmarks staff, the Landmarks Commission, Historic Denver, Historic Boulder and Historic Littleton).

The Crowther House is one of the nation's earliest experiments in environmental housing. Richard Crowther who built it was a pioneer in residential solar architecture long before it became mainstream. Crowther wrote the book on building with environmental stewardship and was internationally renowned. This house was his primary residence - it is a treasure and privilege that this historic building is in Denver. The potential value in a landmark-worthy solar house is clear. With some restoration and creativity, this landmarked house will bring greater return on the developer and neighbors' property investments.

I am asking for your leadership with your vote to oppose the destruction of this rare, historically important Denver asset.

Sincerely,
Marsha Tharakan
712 Lafayette St.

From: [Olivia Theriot](#)
To: [dencc - City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support letter to save 401 Madison Street
Date: Monday, December 12, 2022 11:21:02 AM

Dear Denver City Council,

My name is Olivia Theriot and I'm an architect at Vera Iconica Architecture. My husband, Taylor, and I have lived in Cherry Creek for the last three years at 3977 E 4th Ave. Taylor, Willie Leidolf (my coworker), and I submitted the second Letter of Intent for 401 Madison Street. I'm writing as a resident who, like you, wants to enhance and protect what makes Denver a great place to live and work. In a fast-growing city one of the most tangible, demonstrable contributions you will make surrounds what we do with current spaces; our buildings. Committing to environmental stewardship and creative housing solutions requires leadership to decide not just what we build, but what we tear down. What we preserve is what we value.

Therefore, there should be no dispute that the Crowther residence at 401 Madison should become a designated landmark. Experts and informed citizens agree. Of course, there's the usual and expected disagreement from a developer who wants a return on investment and neighbors who are tired of an eyesore. I'm keenly aware of the (seemingly) opposing interests you must consider.

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Crowther's contributions will outlive us, his legacy is indestructible. Unfortunately, his house is not. The potential value in a landmark-worthy solar house is undisputed. Crowther's house told a story people want to hear. Only Denver can tell that story and therefore we must.

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It is without question, a win-win decision to give this house a future. You have an important responsibility to the invisible stakeholder, the future generations of residents who will inherit the decision you will make today.

I am asking for your leadership with your vote to oppose the destruction of this rare, important asset.

Sincerely,

Olivia Theriot
3977 E 4th Ave, Denver, CO 80206

From: [Maes, Marquasa R. - CC Council Secretary](#)
To: [dencc - City Council](#)
Cc: [St Peter, Teresa A. - CC YA2246 City Council Aide Senior](#)
Subject: FW: Richard Crowther House Letter from Historic Denver
Date: Monday, December 12, 2022 3:08:41 PM
Attachments: [2022-12-09 - HDI Letter to City Council - Crowther House.pdf](#)

Teresa,

I am sending this to Elle as she compiles all written testimony sent in before our 3:00 p.m. deadline.

Elle,

Please include this in the testimony packet for today.

Thank you!

Mar'quasa R. Maes | Council Secretary
w: 720-337-2000 | 1437 Bannock St. | c: 303-532-7590

From: St Peter, Teresa A. - CC YA2246 City Council Aide Senior <Teresa.St.Peter@denvergov.org>
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 3:04 PM
To: Michael Flowers <mflowers@historicdenver.org>; Maes, Marquasa R. - CC Council Secretary <Marquasa.Maes@denvergov.org>
Subject: FW: Richard Crowther House Letter from Historic Denver

Hello Michael,

Thank you for writing in. I'm cc'ing Council Secretary so she can add it to the body of email for all of Council if it is not currently added and sending it along to CW Kniech for her information.

Teresa

From: Michael Flowers <mflowers@historicdenver.org>
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2022 3:49 PM
To: kniechatlarge <kniechatlarge@denvergov.org>
Cc: St Peter, Teresa A. - CC YA2246 City Council Aide Senior <Teresa.St.Peter@denvergov.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Richard Crowther House Letter from Historic Denver

Dear Councilwoman Kniech,

I hope this e-mail finds you well! Attached is a letter from Historic Denver regarding the upcoming public hearing on the Richard Crowther House at 401 N. Madison on December 12th. Please let me know if you have any questions and have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Michael Flowers
Director of Preservation Action
Historic Denver, Inc.
303-534-5288 ext. 27
www.historicdenver.org