

CITY OF NEW ALBANY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

CITY OF NEW ALBANY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DISTRICTS

MANSION ROW
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DISTRICT
SINCE 1999

DOWNTOWN NEW ALBANY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DISTRICT
SINCE 2002

CEDAR BOUGH PLACE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DISTRICT
SINCE 2002

SPRING STREET
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DISTRICT
SINCE 2003

April 23, 2007

Mr. Steve LaDuke, President
New Albany Building Commission
City-County Building
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Hearing for 921 E. 11th Street and 1746 Ekin Avenue

Dear Mr. LaDuke:

The New Albany Historic Preservation Commission (NAHPC) is a volunteer branch of the City government that works to preserve New Albany's rich, nationally recognized historic heritage. The NAHPC meets monthly at the City-County Building to review Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) applications for properties located in our four historic districts (Mansion Row, Downtown, East Spring Street and Cedar Bough Place). In addition to our administrative functions, we also work to actively promote preservation and revitalization-related activities throughout the City.

The purpose of this letter is to express the strong support of the (NAHPC) for the rehabilitation project at 921 E. 11th Street and proposed marketing effort for 1746 Ekin Avenue being led by Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana (HLFI).

Mr. Ted Fulmore, Chairperson for NAHPC and member of the Unsafe Building Committee, has informed the NAHPC of the progress that HLFi representatives Greg Sekula and Judy Martin have made with regard to the properties mentioned above.

HLFI has a proven track record of preservation and rehabilitation in New Albany. Examples of past and current projects they have led and provided guidance for include 1605 E. Spring Street, the Cardinal Ritter Birthplace and Division Street School.

We strongly encourage the preservation and rehabilitation of existing housing stock in New Albany. Demolition is permanent and irreversible and resulting gaps in the streetscape can even have a negative impact on neighborhoods that may already be struggling. Given the reported structural soundness of the structures and willingness of the current owners to work with and get assistance from HLFi we ask that the Building Commission remove the buildings from the current demolition list.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

David Barksdale
Vice Chair, New Albany Historic Preservation Commission
www.newalbanypreservation.com

cc: NAHPC Members (via email)