

Detroit Historic District Commission

RESOLUTION 22-02

Extension of Approvals for Temporary Work in Response to Pandemic

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, the Michigan Local Historic District Act, Being MCL 399.205(10), authorizes the Detroit Historic District Commission (the “Commission”) to “delegate the issuance of certificates of appropriateness for the specified minor classes of work to its staff or another delegated authority,” and “the commission shall provide to the delegated authority specific written standards for issuing certificates of appropriateness”; and,

WHEREAS, the 2019 Detroit City Code, being Section 21-2-57(b), authorizes the Commission to delegate the issuance of certificates of appropriateness for specified minor classes of work to its staff; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission continues to recognize the emergency conditions represented by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the continued need to create and maintain temporary alterations to certain existing conditions in exterior physical environments within Historic Districts in the interest of physical distancing or other measures critical to a successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic; including but not limited to reasons of public health, community stability, economic activity; and feasible reopening of businesses, schools, houses of worship, and other community facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission, at its June 10, 2020 Regular Meeting, approved Resolution 20-02, creating a process for staff approval of such temporary work in response to the pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission, at its October 14, 2020 Regular Meeting, approved Resolution 20-06, extending such approvals through June 30, 2021, based on a finding that the conditions necessitating Resolution 20-02 had not materially changed, nor were likely to change in the immediate future; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission, at its May 5, 2021 Regular Meeting, additionally approved Resolution 21-02, further extending such approvals through December 31, 2021, based on a finding that the conditions necessitating Resolution 20-02 had not materially changed, nor were likely to change in the immediate future; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission, at its October 13, 2021 Regular Meeting, additionally approved Resolution 21-06, further extending such approvals through April 30, 2022, based on a finding that the conditions necessitating Resolution 20-02 had not materially changed, nor were likely to change in the immediate future; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that the conditions necessitating Resolutions 20-02, 20-06, 21-02, and 21-06 remain unpredictable and will likely continue to exist into late 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission seeks to maintain alignment with City Council resolutions for expedited DPW and inter-agency permitting of outdoor cafes for licensed food services establishments, and temporary closure of streets, alleys, and public places, which found that “the City of Detroit is eager to continue to support the active operation of businesses in a safe manner that protects the patrons and employees of food service establishments and other businesses within the City” from COVID-19, as extended via City Council action through November 30, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, a substantial portion of the above referenced work occurs in the city’s historic districts, and the Commission seeks to provide property owners in the historic districts with stability and predictability around their covid-responsive improvements; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Detroit Historic District Commission hereby extends the effective date of Resolution 20-02 through November 30, 2022, and makes no further modification to Resolution 20-02.

Dated: April 13, 2022