

Benjamin Buckley

From: Jake Whitman <jaketv@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 11, 2023 10:20 AM
To: Historic District Commission (Staff)
Cc: Gary Brownell
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2108 Burns Support

Historic District Commission
2 Woodward Ave, Suite 808
Detroit, MI 48226

Subject: Support for Proposed Project at 2108 Burns

To the Historic District Commission of Detroit

I'm writing as a former President of the Indian Village Association. Even though I am no longer a resident, I still care deeply about the neighborhood and the many friends we still keep in contact with. After spending over five years restoring our former home on Iroquois, I am also very passionate about making sure the historic character of the neighborhood is preserved and protected.

I am writing in support of the home project at 2108 Burns. I know the homeowner has been going through the process of obtaining proper approvals for a few years now, and when I was president of the IVA from 2019 to 2021, his neighbors were unanimously in support of the work being done there, whenever those plans were brought before the IVA board.

Now, in some sort of effort to retaliate for other disagreements, some of those same neighbors have been organized to oppose the proposed work they once supported. The plans have not changed— only the unrelated animosity has. It is a blatant attempt to weaponize the HDC against a responsible homeowner who is trying to do the best work to preserve a piece of Detroit's history.

I know the commission is skilled at viewing the facts of these requests, and being able to see past the noise. I hope you'll see the value in what Mr. Brownwell plans for his historic home and the value it adds to the neighborhood.

I wholeheartedly support this project and urge you to approve the design.

For any further questions, or insight on the past support from both the IVA Board and neighbors, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,

Jake Whitman
Former IVA President (2019-2021)