CITY OF HOUSTON

Office of Council Member Joaquin Martinez, District I

November 18, 2024

RE: Battelstein's Landmark Designation, 806 Main Street, Houston, Harris County, Texas
Houston City Council Meeting: Hearing on Landmarks November 20,2024

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

The designation of Battelstein's at 806 Main Street (formerly 812 Main Street) as a City of Houston Historic Landmark is good for Houston's Main Street area. I wish to express full support for the project. The designation and work proposed for the building will reactivate a site that has sat vacant for over a decade. I, and the surrounding business community, applaud ownership for seeking to protect this building and improve conditions in downtown.

Landmark designation has been an economic catalyst for many historic buildings in downtown Houston and Main Street, specifically. Other City of Houston Historic Landmarks on Main Street include the Chamber of Commerce Building at 914 Main Street (Commerce Towers residences and restaurants), the Gulf Building at 712 Main Street (mixed use commercial space and food hall), Houston Bar Center at 723 Main Street (hotel and ballroom), S.H. Kress & Co Building at 705 Main Street (St. Germain Lofts and restaurants), and the Humble Building at 1212 Main Street (hotel and mixed use commercial/restaurant spaces).

The revitalization of the historic Battelstein's building will help beautify the streetscape, reengage business activity, and make the neighborhood safer. I encourage we vote to approve the designation of Battelstein's at 806 Main Street so that it may once again contribute to Main Street's economic vitality as an extension of the existing JW Marriott hotel.

Thank you for considering the profound impact that this designation will have on the area, current business, and future generations.

Sincerely,

Joaquin Martinez
Houston City Council Member
District I

Telephone: (832) 393-3011 | 900 Bagby St. First Floor | Houston, TX 77002 | districti@houstontx.gov

11/15/2024

Shannen Tune
Owner/Founder, Craft Burger and Carol Kay
712 Main St
Houston, TX 77002

RE: Battelstein's Landmark Designation
806 Main Street, Houston, Harris County, Texas
Houston City Council Meeting: Hearing on Landmarks November 20,2024

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Thank you for considering the profound impact that this designation will have on the area, current business, and future generations. Please reach out if there are any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Shannen Tune
Owner/Founder,
Craft Burger and Carol Kay

11/15/2024

Finn Hall
712 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002

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Sincerely,

Owner/Operator

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Sincerely,

Owner/Operator
Christine vandenberg (artistry)

11/15/2024

Finn Hall
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Houston, TX 77002

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Sincerely,

Owner/Operator
Three Keys Coffee

11/15/2024

Stacey-Ann Tune
Owner/Founder, Craft Burger and Carol Kay
712 Main St
Houston, TX 77002

RE: Battelstein's Landmark Designation
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Sincerely,

Stacey-Ann Tune
Owner/Founder,
Craft Burger and Carol Kay

11/15/2024

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Sincerely,

Owner/Operator

ARTISTRY

11/15/2024

Finn Hall
712 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002

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Thank you for considering the profound impact that this designation will have on the area, current business, and future generations. Please reach out if there are any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Owner/Operator
Cranky Carrot Juice Co

11/15/2024

Finn Hall
712 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002

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Thank you for considering the profound impact that this designation will have on the area, current business, and future generations. Please reach out if there are any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Owner/Operator
Francesca Costa
Cranky Carrot Juice Co.

11/15/2024

Diana Davis
Perkins & Will
1001 McKinney St., 19th Floor
Houston, TX 77002

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Thank you for considering the profound impact that this designation will have on the area, current business, and future generations. Please reach out if there are any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Diana Davis
Managing Director

E-Signed : 11/15/2024 03:58 PM CST
Diana Davis
diana.davis@perkinswill.com
IP: 166.205.97.89
Sertifi Electronic Signature
DocID: 20241115153932185

Doc ID: 20241115153932185
Sertifi Electronic Signature

November 12, 2024

Tara L. Grundemeier
Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP
4828 Loop Central Drive; Suite 600
Houston, Texas 77081

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Thank you for considering the profound impact that this designation will have on the area, current business, and future generations. Please reach out if there are any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Tara L. Grundemeier
Partner
Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP

houston mod
PRESERVING OUR MODERN LEGACY

November 17, 2024

Houston City Council
901 Bagby, Second Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

To the Houston City Council,

Houston Mod is dedicated to promoting knowledge and appreciation of modern architecture and design in Houston and Texas. Our advocacy for the preservation of this cultural legacy includes wonderful examples of modernism such as the extraordinary Battlestein's at 806 Main Street, and we are pleased to offer this letter of support for its historical value.

Battlestein's Inc., one of Houston's leading department stores of the 20th century, was a true family business. In 1897, Philip Battlestein moved to Houston where he opened his first tailor shop, a very small affair. The growth of the business he founded at the turn of the 20th century mirrored the growth of Houston and by 1950, Battelstein's enlarged to include 10 floors in its downtown location on Main Street. After many decades of great success in Houston the retail enterprise was closed in 1981.

What we see today is the sophisticated mid-century resurfacing of that building façade, accomplished by the noted Houston-based architectural firm Finger & Rustay. Its high-fashion appearance, horizontal strip windows in the planar limestone façade, has been appropriately restored and once again contributes materially to downtown's traditional main axis.

It is now an excellent example of thoughtful adaptive reuse - retail to hotel occupancy – and designation as a City of Houston Landmark will help to assure its status as an outstanding amenity with exceptional historical significance in the downtown Houston landscape!

Sincerely,

Steven F. Curry, FAIA, NCARB
President, Board of Directors
P.O. Box 541353
Houston, TX 77254-1353

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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