April 19, 2018

Dear Hancock Residents, Property Owners, Homeowners:

 A number of property owners in Hancock would like to see the neighborhood apply to qualify as a local historic district, the primary goal of which is to preserve the architectural history and integrity of our neighborhood. This designation does not mean you cannot make additions to or alter your home or property. Yet, all property owners need to be well-informed about the ins and outs of the local historic district requirements.

This letter is intended to begin the conversation.

The Hancock Neighborhood is the largest historic, architecturally intact neighborhood in the City of Austin, this is because property owners have respected and retained its architectural history throughout the years. However, in recent years some new construction has broken with that tradition, and market forces might undermine it in the future. If you have an opportunity, please read about Hancock’s history published in 1999 by Hancock Neighborhood Association. (www.hancockna.org)

The Association officers are grateful to our neighbors who have volunteered their time and expertise to organize an official Local Historic District Committee which will conduct research, arrange and schedule neighborhood outreach, including educational materials, public forums, and various types of informative discussions with experts and with other neighborhoods. This will be a deliberative process; it will be transparent, and inclusive. The LHD application cannot be submitted without either the sign-off and vote from 51% of the Hancock property owners or owners of 51% of the land.

In the near future, the Neighborhood Association will begin to distribute information and hold a series of informational meetings for Hancock property owners. In the meantime, here are various ways you can be engaged:

* Send an email to hnahistoric@gmail.com to indicate your interest, questions, concerns
* Visit www.hancocklhd.com to learn more
* Visit Hancock Neighborhood Association website where information will be posted

www.hancockna.org

Best regards

Mark Harkrider,

President, HNA