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June 18, 2021

Wendy Rhoades, Case Manager City of Austin Housing and Planning Dept. PO Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767-1088

RE: Case Number: C14-2021-0070 MUNY / WAYA

Dear Ms. Rhoades,

Preservation Austin has been our city's leading nonprofit voice for historic preservation since 1953. We exist to empower Austinites to shape a more inclusive, resilient, and meaningful community culture through preservation. We write today express our strong support for the preservation of all 141 acres of Lions Municipal Golf Course as a historic 18 hole public golf course and open green space.

Established in 1924, Lions Municipal Golf Course has been part of Austin's fabric for almost 100 years and is one of the oldest and most beloved public courses in our community. "Muny" is a precious urban green space that has been recognized as a significant historical civil rights site as the first public course to racially integrate in the southern United States.

Muny received a Texas Historical Marker in 2009 and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2016 in recognition of the significance of it being the first public course to racially integrate in the southern United States. integration of the golf course and the advancement of civil rights by the desegregation of the golf course in 1950. Muny was also recognized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation on its list of the "11 Most Endangered Historic Places in America."

Muny is a vital part of Austin's history, and an irreplaceable recreational and tourism asset to the community. Muny is also home to hundreds of heritage trees and serves as a wildlife sanctuary and water recharge zone in an increasingly dense urban environment.

It is vital that Muny remain a part of this community to honor its civil rights history.

We strongly encourage the City of Austin to take whatever steps necessary to provide permanent protections for the preservation of the entire historic Lions Municipal Golf Course.

Thank you for your consideration.

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President, Preservation Austin