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City of Detroit CITY COUNCIL

Historic Designation Advisory Board

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January 18, 2013

HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL:

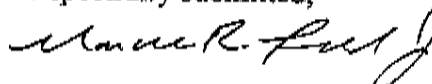
RE: Petition # 2594, Belle Isle Conservancy/Carolyn Huff, requesting ~~designation~~ historical designation of Belle Isle Park

This request for historic designation is on our list of proposals for local designation. The proposed Belle Isle Park Historic District is 982 acres of unique island park, and includes the entire Detroit Boat Club and Yacht Club complexes and the MacArthur Bridge also known as the Belle Isle Bridge. The section which approaches the bridge along East Jefferson Avenue will also be included in the proposed historic district. The park is located in the Detroit River upstream from downtown Detroit. The study will provide a complete updated inventory of all the resources (historic and non-historic) within the proposed historic district. The park was designed by geni of the 20th century such as Cass Gilbert, Fredrick Olmsted, George Mason, Mary Chase Perry Stratton, Albert Kahn and Ero Saarinen. Reasonable grounds for the study have been provided in that the property has been officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A resolution directing the Historic Designation Advisory Board to conduct a study is attached.

Should Your Honorable Body adopt that resolution, you must appoint two persons to serve as *ad hoc* members of the Advisory Board in connection with the matter. Staff is working with the petitioners to identify such persons and will provide you with two names and the appropriate resolution, as the information becomes available.

Staff is available to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,



Marcell R. Todd, Jr., Director

Attachment

cc: City Clerk

1/22/13 - Waiver

BY COUNCIL MEMBER _____:

WHEREAS, The City Council has received a request to designate Belle Isle Park, 982 acres of unique island park, including the entire Detroit Boat Club and Yacht Club complexes and the MacArthur Bridge also known as the Belle Isle Bridge. The section which approaches the bridge along East Jefferson Avenue will also be included in the proposed historic district. The park is located in the Detroit River upstream from downtown Detroit, as a historic district, and

WHEREAS, The City Council finds that there are reasonable grounds for such a request,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council hereby directs the Historic Designation Advisory Board, a study committee, to conduct studies to determine whether the above-mentioned property meets the criteria for local historic designation and to issue appropriate reports in accordance with the Michigan Local Historic Districts Act and Chapter 25, Article II of the 1984 Detroit City Code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an interim designation be placed upon Belle Isle Park while the study is underway.