



COUNCIL DISTRICT 10

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

November 2, 2021

The Honorable Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Chair, Planning and Land Use Committee
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Inclusion of the Crenshaw Women's Center in list of Historic-Cultural Monuments

Dear Chair Harris-Dawson:

I write to express the 10th Council District's support for the Crenshaw Women's Center's (Center) Historical-Cultural Monument Designation (HCM) given the site's significant contributions to the gay, lesbian and women's liberation movements. In the 1970s, the Center was a first-of-its-kind facility dedicated to hosting activities and services for under-represented people. Countless initiatives to eradicate discriminatory barriers were spearheaded here and the legacy of the work lives on today.

Although significant historical initiatives took place on site, it should be noted that the actual building is not an example of a significant architecture style. It is the events of significance that took place on site, and not the building itself, that should be deemed historic. In fact, the building, which no longer serves as the Center, suffers from deferred maintenance needs, and has been significantly altered.

The site is in a zone suitable for housing or mixed-use development. Such uses should not be precluded by approving this HCM designation, but rather, any future development should provide a public amenity to pay homage to its historical context.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

KARLY KATONA

Chief of Staff, 10th Council District