

Communication from Public

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Date Submitted: 11/19/2021 09:25 AM

Council File No: 21-0724

Comments for Public Posting: Hi Ms. Katona, We are the HCM nominators of the Crenshaw Women's Center located at 1025-1027 Crenshaw Boulevard. We recently read your letter of support of our nomination and want to thank you and the 10th Council District. It concerns us though that your letter of support also suggests the designation should only "pay homage" to the history of the Crenshaw Women's Center because the building is not architecturally significant. We're worried that when the item eventually comes before PLUM, that you are setting up a plaque-in-commemoration situation in lieu of preserving the building in some way. Many buildings where women, minorities and people of color met in Los Angeles and the nation are only eligible for their cultural significances. Historically, these groups did not have the means and/or mission to occupy buildings built by master architects or with architectural significance. There are many HCM's in Los Angeles nominated under Criteria A that are not architecturally significant yet have been preserved. A building conveys the feeling of how that history transpired, what it must have been like and what conditions the people worked under. A plaque only informs passersby that some events happened at that spot. Visiting the places where history was greatly influenced helps our understanding of where we came from and how we got here. Women's history is no exception. The historic events that took place at the Crenshaw Women's Center changed the lives of women and the trajectory of women's rights. The women there worked and fought, and some were put on trial, to give us the lives and rights women enjoy today. The experience of visiting this building, especially in some kind of preserved state, and gaining that understanding would be of interest to the nation but also to the women who make up over half of Los Angeles county's population. Should the Crenshaw Women's Center building be demolished, the feeling and knowledge that it imparts will be lost forever. An issue that does come up with these types of historic buildings is integrity. The Crenshaw Women's Center building has only gone through minor exterior alterations. In fact, the Office of Historic Resources remarked that the building's integrity was high, with only minor exterior alterations, since the period of significance. We are honestly surprised that there has been no discussion of incorporating this small building into a

future development. We would welcome a seat at the table to discuss options. Best, Kate Eggert Krisy Gosney