

Communication from Public

Name: Adrian Scott S Fine

Date Submitted: 05/16/2023 08:49 AM

Council File No: 20-1341

Comments for Public Posting: On behalf on the Los Angeles Conservancy and our nearly 5,000 members, please support the Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM) for the historic Morris Kight Residence at 1822 West 4th Street. The owner and their representatives are requesting a "site of" only designation, which will not protect the historic residence but only acknowledge the history that occurred at this location. The Conservancy does not support this request as it negates the role of LGBTQ+ civil rights in Los Angeles and marginalizes the role of early leaders to attain equal rights, then and now. We strongly encourage Councilmember Hernandez to support this nomination in whole, and stand up for this place that imparts an important story and lesson in LGBTQ+ heritage in Los Angeles. Why this Morris Kight Residence matters: 1) Morris Kight (1919-2003) is considered one of the founding fathers of the American LGBTQ civil rights movement. His Los Angeles residence, a modest Craftsman home in the Westlake neighborhood and a hub of LGBTQ social activity in the twentieth century helped form the backdrop to his work as an activist and gay rights pioneer. 2) Born and raised in Texas, Kight moved to Los Angeles in 1958, where he would go on to co-found several prominent LGBTQ rights organizations. 3) The most notable of these is the Committee for Homosexual Freedom, which became the Gay Liberation Front (GLF) in 1969. At the time of the GLF's founding in Los Angeles, two other chapters of the GLF were flourishing in Berkeley and New York. 4) Kight also spearheaded the creation of the Gay Community Services Center, which today is known as the Los Angeles LGBT Center. 5) In 1970, Kight co-founded the Christopher Street West gay pride parade in Los Angeles, the first gay pride parade and festival in the world and still a model for pride events across the globe.

Communication from Public

Name: L. Zakson

Date Submitted: 05/16/2023 04:37 AM

Council File No: 20-1341

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to support the recommendation of the LA Cultural Historic Commission (CHC) that Morris Kight's home at 1822 West 4th Street be adopted as a full Historic Cultural Monument. From 1967 to 1974, Morris Kight turned his home at 1822 West 4th Street into a rare space for LGBT+ people to congregate, to organize, receive services and to make community. This house is associated with the founding of Los Angeles Chapter of the Gay Liberation Front (GLF/LA), the founding of the Gay Community Services Center (GCSC), as well as the creation of Christopher Street West Parade, among other important events. As an officer of the Democratic National Committee's LGBTQ Caucus, I know the importance of preserving historical LGBTQ space. So, speaking in my personal capacity, I want to voice my support for cultural preservation of this important space in Los Angeles queer history.