

## Communication from Public

**Name:** West Adams Heritage Association - Jean Frost

**Date Submitted:** 06/05/2023 03:30 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1341

**Comments for Public Posting:** The West Adams Heritage Association has been a strong advocate for preservation since its inception in 1981. We consist of several hundred households in West Adams, including University Park which is in CD 1. We strongly encourage Councilmember Hernandez to reconsider her proposed amendment and instead support this nomination in whole and stand up for this place that imparts an important story and lesson in LGBTQ+ heritage in Los Angeles. We also ask PLUM and City Council to support this nomination and not reduce it to meaningless site or plaque installation which would demean the substantial contribution of Morris Kite to our culture. We have many examples of the power of place being preserved by HCM designation: recently, the Paul Revere Williams House and the Korean Youth Academy. We have an example of the original Fatburger being preserved and incorporated into a housing development. The Original Pantry was preserved and included in the development downtown. In West Adams there is the Adlai Stevenson House, a modest craftsman house that reminds us of the prominent politician and Democratic candidate for President. Morris Kight deserves recognition, and his home is an important site of our history.



June 5, 2023

Honorable Members of the City Council and PLUM

RE: CF 20-1341

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We also ask PLUM and City Council to support this nomination and not reduce it to meaningless site or plaque installation which would demean the substantial contribution of Morris Kite to our culture. We have many examples of the power of place being preserved by HCM designation: recently, the Paul Revere Williams House and the Korean Youth Academy. We have an example of the original Fatburger being preserved and incorporated into a housing development. The Original Pantry was preserved and included in the development downtown. In West Adams there is the Adlai Stevenson House, a modest craftsman house that reminds us of the prominent politician and Democratic candidate for President. Morris Kite deserves recognition, and his home is an important site of our history.

Morris Kite (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.

Designation is particularly important in today's political climate. Please support the HCM designation. WAHA's long history of successful designations offers an experienced eye on how incredibly significant and vital this designation is to complete. WAHA has been a successful nominator of over three dozen HCMs. This meets the criteria and deserves to be an HCM.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jean Frost", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jean Frost  
Vice-President WAHA

## Communication from Public

**Name:** joe delaplaine

**Date Submitted:** 06/02/2023 12:17 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1341

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please STOP erasing lgbtq local history! Gentrification erases physical evidence of our community's history, bravery and accomplishments, vote yes to make the Morris Kight Residence, 1822 W. 4th Street, a historic and cultural monument at the June 6th hearing and prove you value lgbtq people with your actions, not merely words. Morris Kight's 4th St. home was ground zero for our community's survival when NO politician or government agency would help our community. Do NOT tear down this actual evidence of our living history. Youth NEED to be able to physically lay their hands on monuments to our local achievements and successes, not be left with nothing but incomplete, disjointed fragments they can only experience, second-hand on YouTube or social media! Morris' house WAS the LA Center before there was ANY such service existed in the world! He opened his home and phone so community members in crisis had somewhere to turn to. Our community created these services and programs ourselves --and we did it here, at Morris' 4th St. home in L.A. FIRST-- thanks to the decades of effort by Kight and those who organized and volunteered at his home. Value and preserve OUR lgbtq history and lives. Preserve, honor and protect Morris' home so we can show our achievements to generations to come. Please vote yes to make Morris Kight's 4th Street Residence an Historic-Cultural Monument at the June 6th hearing.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lissette B

**Date Submitted:** 06/05/2023 09:22 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1341

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Los Angeles City Councilmembers, Please vote yes to make Morris Kight's 4th Street Residence an Historic-Cultural Monument at the June 6th hearing. Everyone I know is either scared, depressed or angry (or all of the above), especially me and my LGBTQ family and friends. Denying HCM designation to Morris Kight's 4th Street house would not only be wrong (because the house has already been judged and found historic) but it will also send the wrong message (Los Angeles must stay vigilant against LGBTQ bias). At least 417 anti-LGBTQ bills have been introduced in state legislatures across the United States since the start of 2023 — a new record, according to American Civil Liberties Union data as of April 3. That's already more than twice the number of such bills introduced all of last year. And 24 bills that restrict LGBTQ rights have passed in 11 states. Morris Kight fought for all of us. His home at 1822 4th Street is the birthplace of the modern LGBTQ civil rights movement. Kight's home was a gay community services center, an outreach center and a meeting place for grassroots activists, actions and causes. Kight co-founded the Gay Liberation Front/Los Angeles chapter (1969) and held their meetings at his 4th Street house; one of their actions was to force the American Psychiatric Association to stop listing homosexuality as a mental illness. Kight personally ran the first ever LGBT crisis hotline. The first ever gay pride parade was conceived and planned at 1822 4th Street. And the first ever Gay Community Services Center (1971) was born from the services center at Kight's home (and would grow into the country's largest LGBT services center). I urge you to do the right thing. Please vote yes to make Morris Kight Residence 1822 W. 4th Street an Historic-Cultural Monument at the June 6th hearing. Sincerely, Lissette B

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Margaret A Arnold

**Date Submitted:** 06/05/2023 07:00 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1341

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am saddened that demolition of Morris Kight's house is being considered. Please, members of the PLUM Committee and Councilmember Hernandez, stand up for Los Angeles by preserving important sites in our City's history. Morris Kight's home is a seat of LGBTQ+ heritage.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ernest

**Date Submitted:** 06/05/2023 06:09 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1341

**Comments for Public Posting:** The Morris Knight property must continue to be a historical landmark. We are at a time in this country where LGBTQ rights are being challenged every single day. Maurice was a champion when it came to fighting for those rights and his residence should remain intact and a historical property. There should be not any question if this should happen or not happen, for the fact that this is a historical landmark from a leader that lived in the city.