



CITY OF EVANSVILLE

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
LLOYD WINNECKE

January 4, 2015

Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Indiana Government Center South
302 W. Washington St., Room E208
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Attention: Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission

RE: The McCurdy Hotel Variance 16-01-34

Dear Commission,

We are aware that a situation has occurred with the above project in which the City of Evansville has a serious interest. This interest includes a significant contribution of public funds, and a great deal of effort by our Economic Development agencies and my office to see this outstanding architectural and cultural site being brought from the throes of demolition to an active, on-going revitalization construction project that will result in 90+ high quality riverfront apartments in this magnificent building.

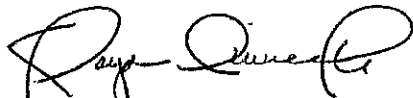
This building has been a significant part of Evansville's Riverfront history for almost 100 years, and is well on its way to being resurrected to its former beauty. Listed on the National Parks Services Registry of Historic Structures and on Indiana Landmarks 10 most endangered historical structures, we all have an interest in seeing this project proceed!

We are aware that the IDHS has a vested interest in controlling the maximum length of time in which construction is required to start after a Construction Design Release is issued. We feel, however, in the instance of the McCurdy there would be greater much greater negative impacts on the project than benefit to the State. These negative impacts would include delays in construction, a significant amount of dollars that would have to be directed away from physical improvements to redraw plans, and applications for design review and variances filed to bring this process into compliance with the state rules. We would submit that the result of going through this process for the third time would likely be approval of revised drawings and


variances based on the 2014 Indiana Building Codes. As the plans and variances have already been submitted twice with minimal changes, we would ask the Commission to grant a Variance to **675 IAC 12-6-20** and reinstate CDR 370458 so that construction may continue under Building Permit #45775 issued by our Building Commission in October.

We appreciate your efforts to provide a safe constructed environment for the citizens of our state and feel this request does not take away from those efforts.

Sincerely,



Lloyd Winnecke, Mayor
City of Evansville



Ron Beane, Commissioner
Evansville Vanderburgh County Building Commission



Mike Connelly, Chief
Evansville Fire Department

LW/ss