

College Park Historic District Proposal

Comments received 8-6 through 8-11

Phone comments:

8/9/21

David Peterson
3312 N 19th St
Opposed to district

Aaron Byers
3316 N 19th St
Opposed to district

Ryan Gowan
3320 N 19th St
Opposed to district

Michael McEverly
3209 N 19th St (and purchasing 3404 N 19th St)
Opposed to district

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info@historictacoma.org

Mailing Address

PO Box 7664
Tacoma, WA 98417

August 6, 2021

Reuben McKnight
Historic Preservation Office
747 Market Street, Room 345
Tacoma, WA 98402

Dear Reuben,

On behalf of the Board of Historic Tacoma, I am pleased to write this letter of support for the listing of the National Register College Park Historic District on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places, and to endorse its designation as a Historic Special Review District.

College Park represents a significant period of development in Tacoma both historically and architecturally. Its streetcar development pattern and modest, well-built homes perfectly reflect the optimism of mid-20th century Tacoma. The nomination is comprehensive and well executed. It has passed a high hurdle of review by the WA State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the National Park Service. and its listing on the National Register of Historic Places is a well-deserved honor.

This nomination comes before the Landmark Commission backed by an impressive volunteer effort and years of preparation and outreach. The support of the residents is well documented and speaks to the pride we all share in this legacy neighborhood. We urge you to take the most important step of local designation and ensure its continuing legacy.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Brooker,
Board President

McKnight, Reuben

From: Corso . <Corso1965@live.com>
Sent: Friday, August 6, 2021 1:10 PM
To: Landmarks
Cc: McKnight, Reuben; Hoogkamer, Lauren
Subject: I Support the College Park Historic District Nomination

Dear Tacoma Landmarks Preservation Commission,

I support the nomination of the College Park Historic District to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places.

This nomination has been well-researched and illustrates a prosperous period in Tacoma history after Allen Mason built the Buckley Gulch Bridge.

It will likely take time for many Tacomans to appreciate the city's many historic assets, making this nomination timely and strategically significant. While Mr. Ryan has been working towards this goal for years, the recent Home in Tacoma Project Proposal illustrates a disregard for Tacoma history and architecture held by some Tacomans. Given the large number of beloved craftsman bungalows in the proposed residential historic district, I would not be surprised if College Park becomes known as Tacoma's "Bungalow Heaven." Like Pasadena, California, every city should have a "Bungalow Heaven" that documents how the local architects interpreted and influenced architecture during the Craftsman Era.

This nomination is a generous gift to the city. Please vote to add the College Park Historic District to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

John Geoffrey Corso
701 N J St., Tacoma

Aug. 7, 2021

Reuben McKnight
747 Market St.
Tacoma, WA 98401

Dear Mr McKnight,

We are writing today to commend to you the College Park neighborhood's nomination to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places. As you know, Tacoma has a large inventory of historic resources, both recognized, and unrecognized; the City is known for its success in using the wealth of historic properties to enhance life for Tacoma's citizens today.

College Park Historic District, currently on the Washington State and the National Register of Historic Places, represents the homes of residents whose skills and talents contributed to the development and growth of the City of Tacoma. Early residents included professionals, business proprietors, railroad employees, independent trade people, and workers in downtown businesses, all living in a close-knit neighborhood.

It's important to preserve the places where ordinary people lived, showing where they spent their home lives as they built Tacoma. The houses in College Park represent the types of homes built in Tacoma starting in the late 1800's and on into the 1900's. We are lucky to have these homes still intact today.

We urge you to place College Park Historic District onto the Tacoma Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Julie S. Turner
Jay R. Turner

McKnight, Reuben

From: Ryan Gowin <rgowin@onedigital.com>
Sent: Monday, August 9, 2021 8:41 AM
To: Landmarks
Subject: No to Proposed College Park Historic District

Reuben,

This email is to formally oppose the proposed college park historic district. I live at 3302 N 19th and do not desire said proposal. I would propose you leave N 19th off the proposal.

RYAN T. GOWIN
Senior Client Executive
OneDigital | Health and Benefits

office: 253.313.5009
mobile: 949.680.9966
5713 Wollochet Drive NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

rgowin@onedigital.com | onedigital.com

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McKnight, Reuben

From: Marshall McClintock <marshalm@q.com>
Sent: Monday, August 9, 2021 4:05 PM
To: McKnight, Reuben
Subject: Support for creation of the College Park Historic District

Tacoma Landmark Preservation Commission:

As a former LPC commissioner for some 10 years, I urge you to support the listing of the National Register College Park Historic District on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places. I happily joined in the unanimous vote to support its inclusion on the National Register as well as the Washington Heritage Register several years ago. That nomination passed the high hurdle of review by the WA State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the National Park Service, which is more stringent than that for the Tacoma Register. The College Park National Register District represents a significant period of development in Tacoma both historically and architecturally and retains a high level of integrity.

Sadly there has been some adverse publicity about the College Park nomination and the proposed Home in Tacoma (HiT) zoning plan. However, Elliott Barnett, the lead planner on the HiT plan, has said unequivocally that historic districts are compatible with HiT. Indeed, College Park represents a neighborhood that's retained its so-called "missing middle". The questions LPC need to answer are about whether the proposed College Park District meets the requirements for the establishment of a city landmark district as set out in TMC 13.07. I think you will find that the proposed College Park District wholly meets and exceeds the criteria for designation listed in this chapter, the goals and purposes of that chapter and the goals and policies contained within the Preservation Plan element of the city's Comprehensive Plan.

Additionally, concern has been expressed about the "equity" of the number of individual and district landmark listings in Tacoma's North End. However, the Downtown Zone has far more individual landmarks as well as large historic and conservation districts. As I have often said, as long as Tacoma relies solely on a citizen-initiated system for individual and district landmarks, inequities will occur. Attempts at creating historic districts in Hilltop, South Tacoma, Whitman neighborhood, Dome district and other areas have failed due to lack of citizen interest or support. Under such a citizen-initiated system, it would seem odd indeed to punish College Park citizens for their efforts as opposed to lauding and supporting them, while at the same time improving outreach and follow-up with other historic neighborhoods in the city.

Again, I urge you to support the nomination of the College Park National Register District to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places.

Marshall McClintock

McKnight, Reuben

From: Chuck, Kathleen Kelley-Arnold <triosan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 1:56 PM
To: Landmarks
Subject: I support HIT & re-zoning. Do not support "historic" College Park

Greetings.

The entire northend has included working class homes, duplexes, etc. 2- or more story apartments, for decades. It is part of the diversity that makes the area so attractive.

Within a two mile radius, there are also plenty of "historic" areas already so designated.

I feel working class, students and our graduating children starting out in life, should continue to be able to live in this area. In-fill, apartments, and re-zoning is badly needed in order for that to happen. More sprawling elsewhere to accommodate needs, is bad. Please vote YES on HIT and re-zoning.

I do NOT support adding the "College Park" area to the historic designation. I feel that is a thinly disguised way of trying to stop more working class people from renting or buying new studio, duplex or similar abodes in an area that once accommodated them. Irony ... many of current home owners in that area would not be able to afford a bigger/more expansive home if that was all prior College Park home owners allowed back in the day. Those working class, smaller homes were allowed, and now those home owners don't want to allow similar. NIMBY.

Historic designation just adds complications for existing or potentially new home owners.

Please vote NO on the request for College Park historic designstion.

Best regards,
Dr. C. T. Arnold
Retired. Homeowner.
N. 31, N. 32 Alder/Cedar neighborhood

McKnight, Reuben

From: Chuck,Kathleen Kelley-Arnold <triosan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 2:03 PM
To: Landmarks
Subject: Vote No on College Park historic designation

Hello, all.

Please do not make College Park a more historic designation.

All that does is make it much harder for lower and middle class folks to update their own home if in that area.

Many loud voices claim College Park should be protected. Many ... frankly, fearful, unsubstantiated "facts" or plain lies ... have been spread by a few, to encourage others support for College Park protection.

Please don't designate ... let homeowners make remodels as they wish under current or new zoning rules, but nothing more than that.

Thank you.

K. Kelley

Nirthend resident / home owner for 8 years

August 11, 2021

Lauren Hoogkamer
Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
Planning and Development Services Department
747 Market Street, Room 248
Tacoma, WA 98402

[sent via electronic mail]

Re: College Park Historic District

Dear Ms. Hoogkamer:

On behalf of the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, I am submitting this letter of support for the proposed College Park Historic District. The Washington Trust is a nonprofit organization dedicated to saving the places that matter in Washington State and to promoting sustainable and economically viable communities through historic preservation.

We understand the Landmarks Preservation Commission adopted a tentative review schedule for consideration of the proposed College Park Historic District. We are pleased to see the schedule in place along with the multi-faceted, public approach for reviewing the proposal. We look forward to tracking this process, learning more information about the proposal, and posing questions as they may arise.

As a Historic District listed in the National Register of Historic Places, College Park features over 575 homes – the vast majority of which contribute to the overall character of the district. Building stock dates primarily from the 1920s, representing working- and middle-class homes that served Tacoma's growing population at the time. Collectively, the district represents an important era in the city's development while also featuring an important array of building styles. Given the current recognition of College Park as a National Register-listed Historic District, The Washington Trust supports effort to secure local designation as a Historic Special Review District.

We look forward to following the review process for this proposal and appreciate the opportunity to submit comments both presently and in the future.

Sincerely,



Chris Moore
Executive Director

McKnight, Reuben

From: Linda Zook <lzook040@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 4:23 PM
To: Landmarks
Subject: Proposed College Park Historic District

To the Landmark Preservation Commission:

I live at 707 N Alder St. in a 1924 year old home. I have owned this property for 43 years and the house has been lovingly restored. i am a 75 year old woman, who now lives alone, and I wonder how the proposed rezoning, and this historic district proposal, to help those who live in the boundaries designated, will help me. I live right at the boundary for the district cutoff. My house is on the alley. I have no plans to sell and expect to live here until I die. Is that going to be possible?

Thank you,

Linda Zook