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March 6, 2020

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Philadelphia Historical Commission
Jon.Farnham@phila.gov

Re: Jewelers' Row Historic District Nomination

Dear Dr. Farnham:

As you know, I am counsel to a majority of the affected property owners within the proposed "Jewelers Row Historic District." The proposed district nomination was recently considered by the Committee on Historic Designation on February 19, 2020 and is presently scheduled for a hearing before the full Historical Commission on March 13, 2020. I am writing to respectfully request that the Historical Commission's hearing for the district nomination be rescheduled for **May 8, 2020**. I am joined in this request by Councilman Mark Squilla as well as the nominator, The Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia.

Shortly after the February 19th CHD meeting, Councilman Squilla reached out to organize a meeting between representatives of the property owners and the Preservation Alliance to discuss the pending nomination. Due to scheduling restraints, that meeting is not scheduled to take place until next week. In light of the possibility of continued dialogue beyond next week, and the necessary coordination of numerous interested parties who plan to attend the Historical Commission hearing, including over two dozen property owners and expert witnesses for both the property owners and the nominator, I believe it is in everybody's interest that the Commission's hearing be continued until the May meeting. No prejudice will result from a continuance as the properties within the proposed district remain under the Historical Commission's jurisdiction during the pendency of the nomination.

Respectfully,



Michael V. Phillips

cc: Allyson Mehley, Historic Preservation Planner, Philadelphia Historical Commission
(Allyson.Mehley@phila.gov)
Office of Councilman Mark Squilla (Anne.Kelly@phila.gov)
Paul Steinke, The Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia
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