

THE MONTGOMERY HOUSE RELOCATIONIF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, **PRINT** YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE	Email
✓ Joanne Holly	6290 SW Prosperity Pl. Rd. Tualatin 97062	pjholly@comcast.net
✓ Jeff	2600 SE Clay St Portland OR 97214	odeiss@mac.com
Susan Lindsey Susan Lindsey	625 SE 17 th	

185734

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Christine Yun [cpypdx@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, November 11, 2012 10:24 PM
To: Adams, Mayor; Commissioner Saltzman; Amanda Harvey; Leonard, Randy; Commissioner Fish
Cc: Wickstrom, Matt; lindsays@pdx.edu; Tim Askin; Moore-Love, Karla; Cathy Galbraith; Val Ballestrem
Subject: Support for Proposed Emergency Ordinance - 2625 SE Hawthorne

Dear City Council,

I strongly support the proposed actions of this emergency ordinance to save the house at 2625 SE Hawthorne. Despite not being listed in the National Register or in the City's Historic Resource Inventory, this house is absolutely a historically contributing property and one with an indisputable link to the history of Portland through its original owners, James B. and Mary Phelps Montgomery, who were among the early settlers of Portland.

The proposal to allow 7 units within the relocated house by rezoning the future empty parcels to allow this density is completely in line with the type of increase in density we in the Buckman neighborhood would like to see.

I support your proposal to waive the SDC fees associated with the move as well. Given the extremely abbreviated timeline needed for saving the house, it would have been impossible for the future owners to have come up with the fees on top of all of the other expenses they must pay immediately out of pocket. They did not have the luxury of long-term financial planning and are taking a significant financial risk in generously offering to save the house.

Sincerely,
Christine Yun
Chair, Buckman Historic Association
1915 SE Alder St.
Portland, OR 97214

11/13/2012

185734

Moore-Love, Karla**From:** Osterberg+Deiss [odeiss@me.com]**Sent:** Saturday, November 10, 2012 1:42 PM**To:** Moore-Love, Karla**Cc:** Wickstrom, Matt**Subject:** Written testimony on proposed emergency ordinance to allow relocation of Montgomery House in Buckman neighborhood (November 14, 2012 hearing; agenda item #1273)

I am writing to comment on the proposed emergency ordinance scheduled for a hearing on November 14, 2012 (agenda item #1273) which would facilitate the move and placement of the historic Montgomery House from its current location at 2625 SE Hawthorne Blvd. to a vacant site located on the south side of SE Madison St. between SE 25th and 26th. The ordinance would provide for the provisional rezoning of the receiving site and the waiver of City fees and charges associated with the remodeling of the Montgomery House into an approximately 7-unit residential rental property.

I am a neighbor of the vicinity of the property and received written notice of the proposed ordinance. I will attempt to attend the November 14 hearing on the ordinance, but my work responsibilities may prevent this. Accordingly, I am providing this written comment for your consideration.

I strongly support the proposed ordinance and commend the City on its prompt action and flexibility in undertaking these accommodations.

The Montgomery House (which is listed as #8-386-02625 in the City of Portland's Historic Resource Inventory) is an irreplaceable historic asset of our city, having been built in 1907 for Mrs. Mary Phelps Montgomery, the widow of James Boyce Montgomery. This pioneer couple came to Portland in 1870 and were integral to the early development of Portland and Albina. They may well be the namesakes for SW Montgomery Street. Mrs. Montgomery lived in the Hawthorne Blvd. home from 1907 until her death in 1943. Mrs. Montgomery was a notable person in her own right, having reportedly been the acquaintance of every US President from Andrew Johnson to Calvin Coolidge as well as such other notables as Mark Twain. Her death in 1943 received front page coverage in *The Oregonian*.

For over a century, Mrs. Montgomery's home has stood as a twin sentinel to the Burrell Mansion (Holman's Funeral Home) at SE 27th and Hawthorne, serving as a gateway to the historic Hawthorne business district. The home's imminent displacement caused by a planned 77-unit apartment development will be a great loss to the character of the neighborhood, but its demolition would be an even greater loss of a significant piece of the city's history.

By facilitating the movement of the Montgomery House, an important landmark structure will be preserved rather than demolished. The relocated home will fit well into the SE Madison Street neighborhood where other grand historic homes are found. The planned interior remodeling of the home to accommodate a density of approximately 7 rental units will have a minimal impact on the neighborhood, especially since it appears that on-site parking may be provided in connection with the redevelopment. A currently vacant lot will thus be sensitively developed in keeping with the historic character of the neighborhood.

The loss of the chestnut tree in connection with the move is unfortunate but apparently unavoidable and should be allowed. A tree can be replanted, whereas a home like the Montgomery House will never be replaced. I encourage the City to consider waiving any tree removal fee since the tree's removal is not primarily the choice of the prospective new owners of the house but rather a necessity driven by the

11/13/2012

185734

new development of the 77-unit apartment complex on Hawthorne.

Again, I am grateful to the City for your rapid action and flexible approach taken on this matter. Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Jeff Deiss

2600 SE Clay St., Portland, OR 97214, 503-235-5999, odeiss@mac.com