



Post Office Box 141843, Coral Gables, FL 33114-1843

February 24, 2023

The Honorable Kirk Menendez
City of Coral Gables
405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Dear Commissioner Menendez:

The Villagers, Inc. was founded in 1966 to help save the Douglas Entrance, which, believe it or not, was slated for demolition at the time to make way for a supermarket. Since then, the Villagers have continued to advocate for the preservation of sites and structures that create the historic ambience that we cherish in Coral Gables and all of Miami-Dade County.

As noted in the staff report, 1258 Obispo Avenue is a designated, historic resource within the Obispo Avenue Historic District, and its demolition would adversely affect the historic and architectural integrity of the district. Demolition is not supported by the Historic Preservation Board or the Historic Resources staff and it defies the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for historic sites.

The applicant has submitted two reports: the first one was prepared prior to the applicants' purchase of the property (indicating that they were aware of issues before they purchased the property) and the second report states that it is possible to repair the existing structure.

We ask that you support the decision of your Historical Resources Department and Historic Preservation Board that the historic house located at 1258 Obispo Avenue should be preserved and restored.

Thank you,

Dolly MacIntyre
Chair, Saving Places Committee