

From: mervol@aol.com
To: [Anderson, Rhonda](#); [Jorge L. Fors, Jr.](#); [Lago, Vince](#); [Mena, Michael](#); [Menendez, Kirk](#)
Cc: [Urquia, Billy](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: allocating resources for the North Ponce Garden Apartment Study
Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 9:36:24 AM

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TO: The Coral Gables City Commission

RE: Agenda Item #G-6/File# 22-4055

As a member of the Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables, I wish to express my support for allocating sufficient resources to enable City staff to complete the North Ponce Garden Apartment Study, as recommended by the Historic Preservation Board in 2018.

The "Garden District" of the North Gables remains a bastion of human-scale urban design, with both the natural and built landscapes co-existing in harmony...but where "Condo Creep" threatens both the dignity and affordability of this treasured civic resource.

Please help to preserve the North Ponce Garden District.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Fitzgerald
Coral Gables resident

From: [Karelia Carbonell](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [Urquia, Billy](#)
Cc: [Adams, Warren](#); [Anderson, Rhonda](#); [Jorge L. Fors, Jr.](#); [Lago, Vince](#); [Mena, Michael](#); [Menendez, Kirk](#)
Subject: HPACG-- Letter to City Commission April 26th--Agenda Item G6
Date: Monday, April 25, 2022 4:01:10 PM
Attachments: [HPACG Letter in Support Agenda Item G6 North Ponce Project.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

Attached please find the letter in support of the North Ponce garden apartments study.

Please confirm receipt.

THANK YOU
KARELIA



HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ASSOCIATION OF CORAL GABLES

April 25, 2022

Coral Gables City Commission Meeting April 26, 2022

Re: Agenda Item #G-6/File# 22-4055

Dear City Commission,

On behalf of the Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables, please note our organization's support for item #22-4055 "Discussion regarding the North Ponce Garden Apartment Study" sponsored by Mayor Lago. This issue is four years long past, and we thank Mayor Lago for reintroducing the item.

In 2018, a motion was made by the Historic Preservation Board for "staff to present to them a comprehensive study of the North Ponce portion of the City..." However, in 2019, staff submitted a memo explaining that "we have not been able to allocate the required resources to complete the project."

Time is working against this area.

The City's North Ponce historic apartment house area, also known as the "garden district," is comprised of many properties 50 years and older and has been a beacon for affordable housing since its original development. The area, made up of one and two story multi-family units, is quaint and nostalgic. One can still enjoy a nature walk among Spanish moss covered trees and sculptural fountains, but for how long?

Here is an opportunity for the City Commission to prioritize the research and study of the North Ponce portion of the city and allocate resources for staff to develop a master plan that would survey each remaining resource in the "garden district" with the objective of creating a blueprint that would help with the preservation of this neighborhood, as recommended by the City's Historic Preservation Board.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Karella Martinez Carbonell', written in a cursive style.

Karella Martinez Carbonell President Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables

Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables
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