

Landmark Commissioners

My name is Raúl Reyes Jr., I reside at 3455 Borger St. Dallas, TX 75212 and a lifelong resident of West Dallas.

I would like for the following statement to be placed on the record for this hearing and to be considered.

As I stated before I am resident of West Dallas, father of 3 and a homeowner, I am also currently the vice-chairman of the Los Altos Neighborhood Association which was founded in 1991. I come before you to oppose the designation of "Landmark" to the property in question, the Lillie McBride Home, as it is being referred to due to its once resident and site of an ambushed and murdered peace officer. As a proud resident and leader in the Los Altos neighborhood, site of this structure, I take pride in our neighborhood's history and most of all the neighbors who have resided in it, then and now, most of all I take pride that we are very tight knit community and support each other, as evident by how neighbors, which include our faith base and secular organizations, such as Wesley Rankin. Wesley Rankin has being one of the leading organization currently helping West Dallas families as well as others deal with the effects of this pandemia. Wesley Rankin Community Center, has a humble and noble beginning in West Dallas, an organization which has more than 80 years of establishment and in its entirety has served its fellow neighbors, with faith and education services to indigents and neighbors in need of the unincorporated West Dallas of the early 20th century, to now a West Dallas which is been gentrified, in its service to others Wesley Rankin has provided, legal services for the undocumented, services and activities for both the senior and youth of the neighborhood and faith services to those in need of spiritual need and healing, but above all has become a strong advocate for its neighbors. Wesley Rankin as non profit provides more than services, it has been a safe physical haven to youth and battered women, a relief and hope to families who have no assistance due to reasons beyond their control, and as recent as 2015 it was our community partner in both advocating for neighborhood stability and helping families being evicted by landlords due to the City's poorly plan implementation of Chapter 27 housing codes.

Wesley Rankin having forceful stewardship of this landmark is not fair and/or neighborly, This stewardship burdens this non profit organization with the additional cost of facility upkeep, security, code compliance and other liabilities unique to this designation. The preservation of history is not representative of the residents Of whom live in West Dallas, then or now, a murdered peace officer is not acceptable, this community is making every effort to be more inclusive and forward thinking people, having to bear a landmark that is truly more representative of this city's true tale history of ignoring and disenfranchising groups of people due to were they live is not a marker we want to tell our future generations about and who we are.

I pray this body will consider the following what we place value in our past is what our future will judge, West Dallas looks toward a future that tells stories of decency, humanity, dignity, fellowship and respect. Values which truly represent who your West Dallas neighbors truly are and want Greater Dallas to remember them by.

At your service,

Raul Reyes Jr.

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Raul Reyes Jr., BA

3111 N. Winnetka

Greetings Landmark Commissioners

My name is Ronnie L. Mestas- Ret USN, I live at 3215 Rutz St., Dallas, Texas, 75212 and have been a lifelong resident of West Dallas minus the twenty years of military duty.

I would like for the following statement to be placed on record for this hearing and to be considered.

I am currently the Chair for the "Los Altos Neighborhood Association", Chair for the L. G. Pinkston High School "SBDM" , Vice Chair for "Vecinos Unidos" a local neighborhood non-profit community center.

As I stated before, I am a lifelong resident of West Dallas and I submit this letter of opposition to the designation of "Landmark" to the property in question the "little McBride" home. The site of a peace officer's murder.

As a proud resident of West Dallas and leader in my neighborhood, Los Altos, I take pride in our history and the fact that as a small tight knit pocket neighborhood we support each other as well as our community organizations such as Wesley Rankin.

Wesley Rankin has been assisting documented and undocumented families for over 80 years in providing resources for a better quality of life.

Wesley Rankin has been our neighborhood partner in preserving not only our culture but also our history (the annual Benito Juarez celebration, Anita Martinez folklorico dance programs and "Dia de los Muertos" celebration) just to name a few events. Wesley Rankin is our history.

As the SBDM Chair for our local high school I cannot think of a bigger backward step for our community than to put this history into an educational curriculum at any grade level.

Again, speaking as a private citizen I oppose any forced financial burden/ landmark on Wesley Rankin and hope that this commission will consider the values that West Dallas and Los Altos truly represent.

Thank You

Ronnie Mestas- Ret USN
(469) 315-5128

Good afternoon.

To whom it may concern:

My name is Marisol Espinoza and I've lived in West Dallas for 13 years and I heard from the Wesley Rankin Organization in regards of the preservation of the house located at 3111 N. Winetka Ave as a historic monument. Living in this community for 13 years, honestly I don't know anything about the people who lived there in the past, until this year I was able to listen to some of the history and I honestly don't think that makes sense to keep it as something historic, for I understand those people where thieves (if anything, they were delinquents) and is very different to what Wesley Rankin offers to the community, if you don't know, Wesley Rankin supports kids' education, young kids, adults and cares and supports for the seniors in our community. My kids have attended the programs that Wesley Rankin offers and I can tell the difference from other kids that don't have the opportunity to attend. If the City wants to preserve that place, why doesn't the City of Dallas use their own resources to keep the place, why are they asking Wesley Rankin to pay for the upkeep of this property?, that money could be used to help the kids, teens, adults and more in this community.

Maybe is because they want to raise the taxes in our houses, I've seen the big changes that West Dallas is suffering and I can guaranteed that I'm not the only person who doesn't know who those people were. I don't know who they are and I don't want my kids to learn from that example.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message.