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Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 9:15 AM
To: Landmarks Preservation Commission
Subject: May 7, 2026 Elmwood Historic District Designation

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Dear Commissioners,

When I said on the evening of April 14, 2026 at the city council meeting "Berkeley is a special place, it's important that we not erase the history that started here" I did not expect that statement to close the article in the San Francisco Chronicle on landmarking procedures in Berkeley.

The Elmwood is a special place and I appreciate it even more after reading the staff report. Thank you.

In the City Council evening discussion on landmarking procedures, Councilmember O'Keefe called historic resources a public good saying, "if we step back and think about the theory of what we're doing like the legal theory historic resources are a public good."

Historic resources are a public good. As we move forward across the city to add housing so more people can enjoy this special place it is important for you as commissioners to designate historic architecture and districts for preservation.

The Elmwood with its historic buildings creates an inviting vibrant ecosystem.

This is a request for a yes on designating the Elmwood a historic district. A unanimous yes would make your vote even more special.

kelly hammargren
District 4