Mary Lou Terrien

From: David Geenen <geenen.david@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 11:11 AM
To: Mary Lou Terrien
Subject: Opposition to HB 5232

Mary Lou Terrien

Local Government House Committee Clerk

As a property owner for the past 3 years in Heritage Hill within the City of Grand Rapids and the State of Michigan, I am convinced that the new state legislation HB5232 "Preservation Modernization Act" would be an infringement of my property rights. A change in the rules could allow alterations and or developments that diminish the authenticity of the architecture and the aesthetic historic charm of my neighborhood and this bill would alter the rules in effect when I purchased and invested in my property.

I am particularly concerned about the portion of HB5232 that contains the wording that I have included below:

> (4) A HISTORIC DISTRICT IN EXISTENCE ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED THIS SUBSECTION SHALL DISSOLVE 10 YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED THIS SUBSECTION UNLESS THE QUESTION OF ITS RENEWAL IS SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORS IN THE LOCAL UNIT AT THE REGULAR ELECTION IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE THAT THE HISTORIC DISTRICT WOULD OTHERWISE DISSOLVE AND A MAJORITY OF THOSE ELECTORS VOTING AT THE ELECTION APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT. A HISTORIC DISTRICT ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS ACT OR RENEWED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED THIS SUBSECTION SHALL DISSOLVE 10 YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THAT ESTABLISHMENT OR RENEWAL UNLESS THE QUESTION OF ITS RENEWAL IS SUBMITTED TO THE 2 ELECTORS IN THE LOCAL UNIT AT THE REGULAR ELECTION IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE THAT THE HISTORIC DISTRICT WOULD OTHERWISE DISSOLVE AND A MAJORITY OF THOSE ELECTORS VOTING AT THE ELECTION APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT. A RENEWAL APPROVED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IS EFFECTIVE ON THE DATE THAT THE HISTORIC DISTRICT WOULD HAVE OTHERWISE DISSOLVED.

My understanding, if this portion of the bill would pass into law, is that **current historic districts** including the Heritage Hill District in the City of Grand Rapids, would dissolve 10 years after the amendatory act and be subject to the same cycle every 10 years thereafter. The reestablishment of this or any other historic district would depend upon a 2/3 majority vote by the local legislative body. This could potentially put at risk maintaining an historical and architectural heritage that would be lost forever. Not unlike what happened to downtown Grand Rapids in the 1960's. In my opinion this would be catastrophic for Grand Rapids and any other city that cherishes its historical heritage. **This is why I am opposed to this bill.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David L. Geenen
541 Madison Ave, SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

I am opposed to passing HB5232.

Sincerely,

David L. Geenen
541 Madison Ave., SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503