To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Darryl Moore

Subject: Develop a Provision for the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance to Allow for the De-designation of a Landmark Designation for a Building that has been Legally Demolished

RECOMMENDATION:
Refer to the City Manager to develop a provision for the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance (LPO) that would allow a landmark designation to be de-designated for a building that has been previously landmarked but subsequently has been legally demolished.

BACKGROUND:
The Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) has jurisdiction over any alterations and design review authority for landmarked buildings and/or properties. In circumstances when a building has been landmarked based on the building's characteristics and not based on any characteristics related to the land on which the building was located, the option of de-designation should be afforded to the property owner when the building has been demolished legally. In these cases:
1. the LPO no longer confers any authority on the City, since the designated resource no longer exists; and
2. the LPC no longer has design review authority over the building or site, as set forth in City Attorney opinions concerning 2501 Haste Street.

As such, a provision should be develop that would provide an avenue to vacate a previously designated building once it has been demolished legally.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:
None

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