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Los Feliz Improvement Association

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December 5, 2014

Planning and Land Use Management Committee
City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CF 14-1102,
Consideration of Bartlett House for Historic-Cultural Monument

Honorable Commissioners Huizar, Englander and Cedillo:

The Los Feliz Improvement Association (LFIA), representing 1,000 households in Los Feliz, supports Councilmember Tom LaBonge's motion (CF 14-1102) to consider the designation of the Oswald Bartlett House, located at 1829 N. Kenmore Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90027, designed by Master Architect A. C. Martin as a City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM).

A. C. Martin was a prominent architect whose buildings have had a profound influence on the City of Los Angeles. Four of his buildings are already HCMs: Saint Vincent De Paul Church, May Company Wilshire, Higgins Building, and Los Angeles City Hall. Additionally three of Martin's buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places: Million Dollar Theater, The Inn at Furnace Creek, and the Ventura County Courthouse.

Since A. C. Martin designed almost exclusively civic buildings, the Bartlett House is a rare example of a single-family residence. It is also a unique example of an Arts and Crafts movement Colonial Revival building which shows the transition and growth of A. C. Martin's style. Important to the Los Feliz neighborhood, it and the half dozen remaining large Craftsman style homes on the street are reminders of the early growth of Los Feliz when North Kenmore Avenue was full of large, upper-middle class single-family residences. The Bartlett House retains its character-defining features.

The Bartlett House was not initially identified as being designed by A. C. Martin in SurveyLA because it was located half a block south of the LFIA's boundary at the time the Los Feliz Historic Survey was conducted and submitted to SurveyLA. Since the boundary was expanded, the LFIA History Committee has been adding those homes to its survey to make sure that all historic properties are identified.

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The Los Feliz Improvement Association therefore urges you to support Councilmember Tom LaBonge's motion to nominate A. C. Martin's Bartlett House as a Historic-Cultural Monument.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Chris Laib", written in a cursive style.

Chris Laib, President

cc: Councilmember Tom LaBonge