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Representative

**Joe Ward-
Wallace**
Business Interest
Representative

June 22, 2022

Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Cultural Heritage Commission: Barry Milofsky, President
Gail Kennard, Vice President
Richard Barron, Pilar Buelna, Diane Kanner, Commissioners
Lambert Giessinger, Preservation Architect

Via email

RE: Support for the nomination of the Grant D. Venerable Family Home, 2921 S. Budlong Ave., as a Historic Cultural Monument.

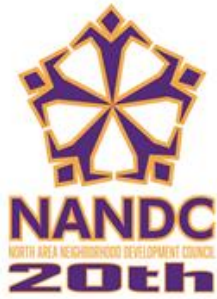
On behalf of the Empowerment Congress North Area Neighborhood Development Council (NANDC), we would like to express our support of the HCM Nomination of the Grant D. Venerable Family Home. Grant D. Venerable was Caltech's first African American graduate. He broke barriers for African Americans in academia, and the sciences and engineering fields.

NANDC voted unanimously to support the nomination at its General Board meeting of June 2, 2022.

The Grant D. Venerable Family Residence is identified with important events of national, state, or local history, or exemplifies significant contributions to the broad cultural, economic or social history of the nation, state, city or community.

The Venerable family itself broke some of the barriers that faced (and continue to face) African Americans in the sciences; the family is also associated with Great Migration. Importantly, the family owned & managed a hotel listed in the Green Book and played a role in the "Sugar Hill" lawsuits that helped end restrictive covenants and break the color line in Los Angeles's residential neighborhoods.

The property is associated with the lives of historic personages important to national, state, city, or local history. Grant Delbert Venerable and his son, Grant Delbert Venerable II, both broke barriers for African Americans in academia and the fields of science and



engineering. Grant Delbert Venerable Sr. was the first African American graduate of Caltech, the California Institute of Technology, and in recognition, the university recently renamed one of its campus buildings for him.

This nomination also represents just one example of the wealth of history that has gone unrecognized in the NANDC area and in South Los Angeles. NANDC is supporting a cultural and architectural resource survey for its NANDC task force area and is working with Planning and Councilmember Harris-Dawson and Councilmember Curren Price to achieve that goal. Until there is a viable survey, the CHC will be receiving these gems piece meal - unfortunate but necessary.

NANDC is a self-governed, self-directed, and independent organization empowered by the Los Angeles City Charter. This charter offers neighborhood councils a role in the City's decision-making process. NANDC was certified by the City of Los Angeles on April 27, 2002 and was the 24th neighborhood council formed under the guidelines of the City Charter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thryeris Mason".

Thryeris Mason, President
Empowerment Congress North Area Development Council (NANDC)
www.NANDC.org

CC: Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Albizaal Del Valle, CD 8
Isaias Benevides, CD 8
Adrian Fine, LA Conservancy
West Adams Heritage Association