

June 9, 2006

Mr. Bill Feurer, Chairman
Springfield Historic Sites Commission
919 S. Eighth Street
Springfield, IL 62703

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission:

Please consider this correspondence as Downtown Springfield, Inc.'s support of petition #2006 –Hist 002 as requested by Mr. Anthony Leone.

Petitioner, Mr. Leone, owner and proprietor of the Pasfield House, 525 S. Pasfield, petitions for conditional permitted use to enable him to use the Pasfield House and neighboring property for a Bed and Breakfast and Tourist House and Meeting Room.

Mr. Leone has shown through a variety of actions his commitment to the area surrounding the State Capitol Complex, downtown and the entire city by his personal investment in the significant renovation of said property as well as his involvement in several neighborhood beautification projects. The petition before you is yet another effort on his part to bring vitality and energy to a once blighted area. Mr. Leone, like many economic development leaders and business people in our city, is merely responding to an outcry by consumers and visitors who wish to fully engage in the "Springfield experience".

The proposed development of this property and the adjacent parcel is similar in esthetic temperament to the surrounding area as well as architectural design and are well within the guidelines outlined by the Historic Sites Commission.

We believe that Mr. Leone has served as a committed partner, advocate and outstanding community citizen as owner of the Pasfield House and will continue to exhibit his profound allegiance to this neighborhood through the enhancement of this and other properties.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



**Victoria Clemons, Executive Director
Downtown Springfield, Inc.**