

MATTHEW STODDARD

1658 E CLIFTON ROAD NE • ATLANTA, GA 30307
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March 14, 2020

Via Email:

David Cullison
Senior Planner
DeKalb County Dep't of Planning & Sustainability
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David,

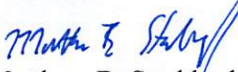
I want to be on the historic preservation commission. I live and own a business in the historic district. I am very interested in striking the right balance between preserving the old and making room for the new. I am already very well versed in the committee rules including the enabling statute, the enabling ordinance, and the design manual. I am very interested in participating.

My credentials include:

- **Experience with Commission:** Owner of land development company (Lullwater Wharf) that has drastically remodeled a large commercial structure in the district.
- **Experience with Land Use:** Owner of law firm (The Stoddard Firm) that consistently carries multiple high dollar premise liability cases centering on violations of building codes, plumbing codes, mechanical codes, and life safety codes.
- **Education:** Law degree from the University of Georgia where I graduated with honors and took courses in property rights and land use planning. Also hold a degree in Chemistry from the University of North Carolina.
- **Community Involvement:** Member of the Druid Hills Civic Ass'n. Have attended the monthly board meeting (although not regularly) and the annual address. Have communicated / met, in the past, with the former Liaison to the DeKalb HPC about land development issues in the district.
- **Residency:** Have lived in DeKalb County (in the historic district) since 2017.

I would appreciate the opportunity to join the board, and if necessary, meet with the relevant persons about my doing so.

Sincerely,


Matthew B. Stoddard
mattstod@gmail.com

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WORK EXPERIENCE

The Stoddard Firm - *Owner* - Atlanta, G.A. Feb 2014 - present

- Built a personal injury law firm from no staff / money to a firm that employs five persons and generates revenues over \$2,000,000.00 a year
- Frequently represents those seriously injured and the families of those killed by dangerous properties that violate building codes, mechanical codes, plumbing codes, and life safety codes
- Manages a small successful staff

Lullwater Wharf - *Owner* - Atlanta, G.A. March 2018 - present

- Purchased large derelict office building in the Historic district
- Obtained loan for drastic renovation
- Interviewed, hired, and directed architects, contractors, designers, and sub-contractors to drastically renovate the building
- Navigated the HPC process over the course of many months including an appeal to the County Commissioners who vacated the HPC's denial decision

EDUCATION

University of Georgia School of Law Class of 2008
J.D., *cum laude*

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Class of 2005
B.A., Chemistry

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVMENT

Leadership Academy – State Bar of Georgia

- Selected to participate in six month leadership program taught by legislators, state bar leaders, Supreme Court justices, Court of Appeals judges, state trial court judges, and District Court judges.

Civil Justice PAC – Georgia Trial Lawyers Association

- Selected to help oversee the budget and political donations for, what I believe to be, the largest lobbying organization in the State of Georgia
- Organizations sole mission is to support the seventh amendment right to a trial by jury

FAMILY LIFE

- Devoted husband to Carrie Porter Stoddard, veterinarian
- Devoted father to Samuel Stoddard (1 ½ years old) and Kendall Stoddard (due May 2020)