



WILDWOOD

February 23, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: Wildwood Historic Preservation Commission Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Re: J.P. Connell House Update (**Ward One**)

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
Steve Cross, City Administrator
John A. Young, City Attorney
Rick Brown, P.E. and P.T.O.E., Director of Public Works
Melanie Rippetoe, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks
Robyn Keefe, AICP, Planner

BACKGROUND >>> The Department of Planning has allowed the ownership group of this property to prepare a response to the City's last communication in this regard. That last communication addressed the City's desire to assist in preserving this historic asset through the use of the Master Plan's Historic Land Use Category, which can provide the mechanisms to offer incentives in terms of land use and subdivision opportunities to increase the value of the site's future development. This land use category is the first step in creating a partnership in terms of preservation and development.

Again, the John Connell House was constructed by the same builder as Old Pond School and has many of the same characteristics in terms of materials and architecture. The dwelling was completed in 1913, is two (2) stories in height, and over 1,975 square feet in total living area. Around the existing house are large trees, which add character to it and create a wonderful setting for the asset.

UPDATES >>> After this last communication, the Department of Planning recently contacted the principle that has been representing the property owners through the demolition request and, now, the preservation initiative. The Department was seeking an update on the asset and its preservation. The contact for the property owner did not reply to the City's request, as of the completion of this Memorandum. Accordingly, the Department has no new information to report in this regard, but would note the asset remains in place at this time.

CONTACT INFORMATION >>> If any of the Commission Members should have comments or questions in this regard, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning at (636) 458-0440. A brief update is planned on this item at tonight's Commission meeting. Thank you for your consideration of this information and comments on the same.