

## Amy Lacy

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**From:** John Tousley <jtousley@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 6:43 PM  
**To:** Amy Lacy  
**Subject:** I support the historic commission

Zionsville Town Council  
1100 West Oak Street  
Zionsville, IN 46077

RE: Ordinance 2022-06 regarding a Town of Zionsville Historic Preservation Commission

Dear Council Members:

I am writing you to express our support of Ordinance 2022-06 regarding a Town of Zionsville Historic Preservation Commission. My wife and I have been residents of the Village area in Zionsville since 1978.

We see the ordinance as exploratory in nature. It would establish a commission appointed by the mayor and approve by the town council to recommend any area(s) that should be placed in an historic district and how a district should be regulated. Any recommendations would be submitted as an ordinance for approval by the town council and mayor.

None of us can now say for with certainty what the commission will recommend, or that we will necessarily agree with its recommendations. Our best guess is that we are approximately a year and perhaps more before a commission would make any recommendations. Then it would be debated by you and the mayor. We see that process as providing plenty of time to hear our concerns and produce the best fit for Zionsville.

We do know as a certainty that we currently have little or no protection for preserving the historical homes that help make Zionsville special. Historical homes can be demolished with no regard for what they mean to the community and replaced by something that would look better on a golf course. We also know what brought us to this community and feel that it is slipping away.

We see a commission as the best way to explore what counts and provide us with a means of preserving it. We see the fact that there are more than 50 historic or conservation districts in Indiana as assurance that many communities find them beneficial. We believe that a commission exploring this possibility for Zionsville is overdue and well worth the time and effort.

An Historic Preservation Commission, and hopefully a conservation district, would provide Zionsville with a means to protect, preserve and enhance the economic value of properties within the Village. While we do have building codes and zoning ordinances, these regulations do not protect historic homes from being demolished or address the look, feel, consistency and heritage of our homes and neighborhood.

Thank you for your service, time, and consideration.

John and Carolyn Tousley  
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