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MAYOR JOSHUA A. GARCIA
CITY OF HOLYOKE

RECEIVED

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April 29, 2022

Holyoke City Clerk's
Holyoke, MA

Honorable Councilors:

Please be advised that I am opposed to the Historical Commission's proposal to extend the existing demolition delay period from six months to twelve months.

City departments routinely work with property owners and prospective developers to preserve structures of historic or aesthetic significance. But I believe the proposed amendment would impose an unreasonable burden on developers who need to move forward with projects in the city. A twelve-month delay strikes me as extreme and is, on its face, an extra layer of bureaucracy.

Finally, such an extension would cast doubt on the judgments made by the City's Property Preservation Group.

I believe six months is ample time for the Historical Commission to accomplish its mission.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Joshua A. Garcia, Mayor