



THE TRAMMELL & MARGARET
CROW COLLECTION
of
ASIAN ART

April 1, 2013

Tim Irvine, Executive Director
Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
221 East 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2410

Dear Mr. Irvine,

I am writing on behalf of the Crow Collection of Asian Art in enthusiastic support of the proposed Flora Lofts development. The project, which promises affordable housing in the heart of the Dallas Arts District designated for our city's artists, musicians, dancers, teachers and actors, completes the original vision for the Dallas Arts District and we feel it is the best possible use of the available space remaining in the district.

Lack of dining options and inconsistent foot traffic has been an often-voiced concern about the Dallas Arts District. The mixed-use retail and dining aspect that has been proposed will bring much-needed dining options. The combination of use, which brings restaurants, retail and artist residences into the center of the Arts District promises greater consistency in foot traffic and a new level of energy and vibrancy overall, which adds to feelings of safety, and elevates the area from a district known for its buildings, to a true neighborhood.

The proposed development strengthens the Arts District economically as well as culturally. It replaces a surface parking lot with a beautifully landscaped building with parking and retail services. It adds much-needed affordable housing to downtown. It promises to bring more people to the district, which translates to visitors to our museum and to the facilities of our many Arts District partners. And perhaps most importantly, by positioning artists to live and work in the shadow of masters the Flora Lofts development helps grow great artists of tomorrow from Dallas.

The Crow Collection of Asian Art is strongly in support of Flora Lofts and requests that you put it at the top of your action list and move it forward to become a reality as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Amy Lewis Hofland
Executive Director
Crow Collection of Asian Art