

The Foundation for Community Empowerment



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J. McDonald Williams  
*Chairman and Founder*

February 26, 2013

Letter to the Editor  
*The Dallas Morning News*  
508 Young Street  
Dallas, TX 75202

To Whom It May Concern:

The Dallas Morning News ("Dallas artists' housing merits careful exploration") penned an editorial that, while praising the potential and worthiness for artists' housing in the Dallas Arts District, expressed reservations about the pathway for getting there.

You may recall that the late David Dillon emphasized the need for artists' housing in the original Arts District plan, and such initiatives are characteristic of other highly successful artists' housing programs in progressive cities. I strongly believe this affordable housing development is not only sorely needed, but singularly worthy of widespread support in Dallas.

La Reunion TX's sponsors have a long and credible track record in Dallas of designing and developing successful affordable housing and other projects. As I know all too well, low-income housing tax credit financing is difficult to secure and carries ongoing requirements. The dilemma, however, is that in Texas there is no other financing available that will fund such crucially important affordable housing. Instead of leaving this limited and precious resource to professional tax credit developers seeking a front-end profit, we should all be supporting these civic minded sponsors. This important project is for the well being of the Arts District and the rejuvenating Dallas downtown, as well as our lower-income fellow citizens in need of fit and affordable housing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. McDonald Williams', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

J. McDonald Williams  
Chairman  
Foundation for Community Empowerment