

November 4, 2022

Dear Mayor Bill Foulds and City Council Members,

I write on behalf of the City of Dripping Springs Economic Development Committee. As you know, our twelve member group is tasked with representing various citizen groups on matters pertaining to the development and strengthening of our community's economy. A measure of success on this front is job creation and business growth that contributes to the overall improvement of the wider social and natural environment of Dripping Springs.

At our October meeting, the Committee learned about the proposed building remodel and addition to 299 Mercer Street to accommodate a restaurant, Roxie's. We were intrigued with the overall concept of the project which made this applicant uniquely compelling. Particularly with:

- The intentionality to preserve and honor our community's heritage and history.
- The focus on the adaptive reuse of a space within the historic district.
- The ability to provide a gathering space broadening the sense of community.
- The deep community connection and focus on celebrating the legacy of local cuisine.
- The further advancement of making the historic downtown district a tourist destination.
- The manner in which it will compliment and further benefit the existing downtown businesses and beyond.

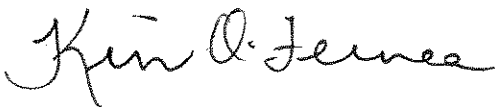
This project appears to achieve this while contributing further to the economic success and vitality of our beloved downtown district, anchored by and around Mercer Street.

We understand that wastewater allocation will be an item for consideration. Upon review of the history of the City's strategy for its wastewater policy, Council at that time and beyond, very wisely allocated wastewater capacity for services which influence and encourage desirable community growth patterns for preferred development zones. The Historic Downtown Core was then and has always been seen as a priority focus for economic development.

It is also important to note Roxie's is positioned to serve as an instrumental economic driver further catalyzing many initiatives that have been central to the City's Comprehensive Plan, both past and current trends identified in the ongoing Reimagine Dripping Springs effort. Roxie's will fill a need for more dining options that will enhance the effort to transform our downtown into a thriving destination for residents and tourists.

The Committee unanimously voted to support and humbly recommend Council support this project, including the approval for its necessary allocation of wastewater. We see this project as a true economic driver stimulating growth and success for our Downtown Core.

Sincerely,



Kim Fernea

Chair, Economic Development Committee

Committee Members: Becky Atkins, Robert Avera, Rex Baker, Russell Collins, Tiffany Duncan, Melanie Fenelon, Whit Hanks, Susan Kimball, John Kroll, Taline Manassian (Council Representative), Keenan Smith