



April 22, 2025

The Honorable Eric Johnson
Dallas City Hall
1500 Marilla Street
Dallas, TX 75201

Dear Mayor Johnson and Members of the Dallas City Council,

AIA Dallas worked closely with city staff and stakeholder organizations on the proposed ordinance to shift up to eight units from the International Building Code (IBC) to the International Residential Code (IRC) and to update the related construction codes. This process has been highly collaborative – thoughtfully balancing practical design constraints, safety considerations, and national best practices. We are optimistic that the final ordinance draft will incentivize more infill development and enhance urban design across Dallas. **AIA Dallas fully supports the ordinance amendment included in Agenda Item PH1 on tomorrow's agenda.**

Last fall, city staff approached AIA Dallas to assist in this important review. In response, AIA Dallas assembled a team of architects and industry experts to provide feedback to the broader stakeholder group and the Department of Planning & Development. Through nearly weekly meetings and a focused in-person working session at our office, we carefully reviewed the ordinance details and considered diverse perspectives. We are grateful that the input from the design and architecture community is reflected in the final draft. The comprehensive and transparent process behind this ordinance serves as a model for future code reviews and revisions to help achieve our shared policy goals.

Thank you for considering this ordinance amendment. AIA Dallas believes it will create a valuable design and construction alternative for small housing developments throughout the city. Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information or insight.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zafda Basora", written in a cursive style.

Zafda Basora, FAIA
Executive Director

CC: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager
Emily Liu, Director, Planning and Development