

March 22, 2021

To: The Landmark Commission of the City and County of Denver and Denver City Council
Regarding: Adverse impacts of the Landmark Preservation review process on KMGH

To whom it may concern,

I write you as the lead for risk management, business continuity and physical security for KMGH, Channel 7 in Denver. After reviewing the impacts of the proposed landmark designation on our building at 123 Speer Blvd., I believe that designation of this structure would pose a risk to our operations. KMGH operates a 24/7 television station and, as such, has systems and processes in place to support the "always on" nature of our business. The review processes required of designated structures pursuant to Chapter 30 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code could have significant adverse effects on our ability to serve our Denver viewers with critical news, which is a requirement of our FCC license, as well as the safety and wellbeing of our staff. Below, I highlight two examples of how these processes could impact our business.

Acute Incident Response

Our business hinges on our ability to provide an uninterrupted television signal to our viewers for our news services and other programming. Providing this signal requires sophisticated technical equipment, servers and communication devices supported by critical power and cooling systems, as well as back-up systems in the event our primary systems experience a disruption. We maintain employees and support vendors on call on a 24/7 basis to respond to disruptions. Such disruptions can include, for example, failure of our back-up power systems during a blackout, failure of our STL/microwave transmission systems, or failure of our critical infrastructure cooling systems. These disruptions often require replacement of existing, exterior building-mounted equipment—and may even require new building penetrations to be made at time-of-incident.

Even to the extent these disruption responses would fall within the "Quick Review" process provided for certain improvements under the Landmark Ordinance, the response timeline would be a burden on our operations and could result in a loss of signal to either or both of our over-the-air and network-connected viewers. Should such a delay occur during a major news event such as a natural or man-made disaster, we would not be able to serve our viewers and fulfill our mission. The loss in revenue and reputational impact of such a disruption could have a significant, long-term impact on our business. Across the industry, in cases where TV stations went off-air due to technical issues, they were considered to have failed their community and many never recovered their prior standing.

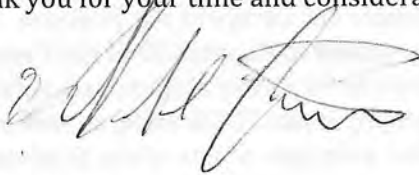
Future Security Infrastructure Planning

While we have always faced risk to our staff and facilities, that risk has greatly increased in recent years. As a result, we are constantly reviewing and implementing security precautions for our facilities. The landmark designation of our building could prevent us—or at least delay us—from taking necessary precautions as threats increase. Examples of improvements that may be required include replacing the first-floor lobby glass with opaque panels, reinforcing the property perimeter fence, or placing a fence around the

building itself. Absent designation, only the latter of these ideas would need a permit, and even then, there would be fewer restrictions on us. With a historic designation, improvements like these would potentially require discretionary approval from the Landmark Preservation Commission, and could be turned down due of their impact on the building's architectural integrity.

Both of the topics discussed above are examples of how landmark designation would seriously impact KMGH's business. Given the constantly-changing nature of our business, there are likely many other ways that landmark designation could affect us. These potential—and even unknown—impacts on our business simply underscore the fact that a permanent and inflexible landmark designation is not a good fit for this building and presents a serious threat to the very business this building was purposely built for.

Thank you for your time and consideration, sincerely,

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

Mike Epstein
Vice President, Risk Management & Business Continuity
The E.W. Scripps Company