DATE : October 28, 1991

TO : City Council

FROM : Corporation Counsel

VIA : Mayor Michael A. Guido

RE : Formation of Historic District Study Commission

Richard L. Dombrowski, President, Springwells Park Association, Inc., has contacted the City Administration regarding the achievement of "Historical District" status for the Springwells Park/Ford Foundation area. This year, Springwells Park Association, Inc. is celebrating fifty years as a homeowner's association. As part of the celebration, the Association hopes to preserve the historic quality of their neighborhood by gaining "Historical District" status.

Pursuant to Act No. 169. PA of 1970, as amended, "historical preservation is declared to be a public purpose." This same Act authorizes the City Council to "regulate the construction, alteration, repair, moving, and demolition of historic structures within City limits." "Regulate" would mean the imposition of a requirement to obtain a special permit before any construction, alteration, repair, moving, or demolition of any Springwells Park home.

The first step in this process is the establishment of a "Historic District Study Committee" appointed by the City Council. This committee must prepare a report regarding the historical significance of the area at issue; this report must initially be submitted to the City Planning Commission, and then to the City Council. It is intended to form the basis for granting or denying "Historical District" status.

The attached resolution identifies several individuals prepared to serve on the Historic District Study Committee. Three (3) residents of the Springwells Park area are included, as are three (3) City employees. The resolution also identifies the steps necessary to achieving the Historical District status once the Committee prepares its report.

To assist Springwells Park Association, Inc., with achieving its goal, immediate effect of this resolution is requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie M. Sabon
Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED:

William C. Holtgren
Corporation Counsel