

November 5, 2025

City of Houston
1002 Washington Ave, 3rd floor
Houston, Texas 77002

Re: Support for Axelrad Beer Garden – Reduced Building Setback Request

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of the Midtown Management District, we are pleased to express our support for Axelrad's request for a reduced building setback at 1517 Alabama Street.

Axelrad is a business cornerstone in Midtown—an inclusive gathering space that showcases Houston's creative energy and cultural diversity. Their continued investment in the property reflects a long-term commitment to improving both the neighborhood and the experience of those who live, work, and visit here. The proposed solar-powered shade structure, expanded restroom facilities, and restoration of the historic home represent thoughtful enhancements that align with the District's goals of sustainability, walkability, and preservation of neighborhood character.

Given Axelrad's proven track record as a responsible and engaged community partner, the District believes a reduction in the 20-foot pedestrian realm under the Walkable Places designation is appropriate. Axelrad has consistently managed pedestrian flow and public access in ways that improve safety, encourage local activity, and elevate the public realm.

The Midtown Management District supports projects that contribute to the vibrancy, resilience, and economic vitality of our neighborhood. We believe this proposal will strengthen those values and serve as an example of the kind of investment that keeps Midtown moving forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Criglar
Board Chair
Midtown Management District

Lewis Goldstein
Chair, Urban Planning Committee
Midtown Management District