



**The Kokomo Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Memorial Commission
PO Box 161
Kokomo, Indiana 46903-0161**

March 9, 2021

Hon. Mayor Tyler Moore
The City of Kokomo
City Hall
100 S. Union St.
Kokomo, Indiana 46901

cc: Susan Alexander, Greater Kokomo Downtown Association, 700 East Firmin Street
#200, Kokomo, Indiana 46902

Dear Mayor Moore:

We read with keen interest that you are asking for public input on arts and culture to help gain a Cultural District designation from the Indiana Arts Commission. We applaud your efforts and are encouraging our community members to fill out the input survey.

We are proud that the City of Kokomo and the Greater Kokomo Downtown Association is putting forth this effort that will have a positive impact on our community. We also believe that these efforts to extend the appreciation of arts and culture will benefit our entire county. And as the city seeks project funding to attain the designated district it will offer many other opportunities for Howard County and the City of Kokomo.

As you move forward with this much desired project, we encourage you to:

- Establish guidelines that will expand the Kokomo Arts Culture District Map Guide to include more of the historic arts and culture in the city, including:
 - (a) Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Plaza
 - (b) Historic Douglass School, 1104 North Bell Street.
 - (c) Carver Community Center, 1030 North Purdum Street
 - (d) Esther's Place Boutique, 414 W. Taylor Street
 - (e) Howard County Historical Society, 1200 W. Sycamore St.

We appreciate your consideration of our suggestions of inclusion of these sites and look forward to offering you help with this project. Please call me with any questions at (765) 434-9521

Sincerely,

Janie Young

janieyng@aol.com

Janie Young, Chairperson, Kokomo MLK Commission

Rev. Dr. William Smith, Douglas School Project

Isaac White, Asa Phillip Randolph Organization

Aaron St. Clair, Coalition of Black Trade Unionist Organization

Rossie Toliver, NAACP Kokomo

Catherine Hughes, Howard County Historical Society

Willie Stroman, Minority Health Alliance of Howard County

Indiana Black Expo, Kokomo Chapter, Robert Hayes

Carver Community Center, Donta Rogers