

**From:** Church Hill Central Civic Association <churchhillcentralcivic@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2026 9:39 AM  
**Cc:** sarah@urbanhoperva.org; Brown, Jonathan W. - PDR; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Office; churchhillcentralcivic@gmail.com; PDR Land Use Admin; murray.withrow@servantpartners.com; Watson, David F. - PDR  
**Subject:** Ordinance 2026-167

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Good Morning,

We write in support of **Ordinance 2026-167** for the special use of 1110 Oakwood Avenue. The planned amendment of zoning to allow for up to six unrelated occupants in this case is supported by a well-resourced plan that is underway in the neighborhood at a smaller scale without incident. Providing a variety of housing options and structures in the neighborhood is a priority of the association and many in our community. Following a vote of our membership on July 14th, we offer our support of the SUP as presented and would request review of any amendments.

Board of CHCCA

City of Richmond Department of Planning and Development Review  
900 E Broad St, Room 511  
Richmond, VA 23219

October 3, 2025

**Re: Letter of Support for 1110 Oakwood Avenue**

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Sarah Carpenter, and I am writing to express my strong support for the Servant Partners Discipleship House Program located at 1110 Oakwood Avenue; specifically, my support for increasing the number of residents allowed in the house beyond the city's ordinance of three unrelated individuals. I live at 1100 N 35<sup>th</sup> Street, so I am a close neighbor of this house. In addition, I personally know and have worked with Murray Withrow, who is the leader of Servant Partners, and I trust and respect his leadership.

The Servant Partners Discipleship House Program offers young men in their formative years of young adulthood a safe, structured, and faith-centered environment to grow in character, responsibility, and purpose. It is more than housing—it is a place of mentorship, accountability, and community where young men can gain the skills and confidence they need for a healthy and successful future.

As a close neighbor, I believe having this program in a house around the corner from where I live will have a lasting, positive impact not only on the participants themselves but also on the broader community, as it helps cultivate leaders who will give back and strengthen the neighborhoods they are a part of. Selfishly, I have two young teenagers, and the more neighbors like these young men that my family has the privilege to interact and build community with, the better. We have lived in our house for five years, and we have great relationships with our neighbors. I feel confident that the neighborhood would welcome this household with open arms.

For these young men to get the full benefit of the program, it is critical to make this exception to create the experience and environment needed to have the greatest positive impact on these young men. With Murray's guidance and dedication, I am confident that the program will foster growth, resilience, and hope in the lives of many young men, while also serving as a beacon of encouragement for the wider community.

Thank you for reading my letter, and please feel free to reach out to me with any follow-up questions.

Sincerely,



Sarah Carpenter

1100 N 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
Richmond, VA 23223  
[smengers@gmail.com](mailto:smengers@gmail.com)  
(202) 271-7742

Re: Letter of Support for the Discipleship House Program

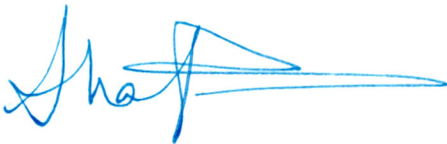
To Whom It May Concern,

As a longtime resident and neighbor on Oakwood Avenue, I want to express my full and enthusiastic support for Servant Partners Discipleship House program and for Murray Withrow's leadership.

I believe this kind of intentional, supportive living space is exactly what our young men—and our community—need. It's encouraging to see a program focused on mentoring, personal growth, and spiritual development during such a pivotal time in life. The Discipleship House will not only provide structure and purpose for these young men, but it will also bring positive energy, accountability, and connection to our neighborhood.

Having spoken with Murray and seen his heart over the years for this work, I have full confidence that this will be a place of transformation and hope. I'm proud to have this program just down the street and look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have—not just for the young men involved, but for all of us who live here.

Sincerely,



Shaleetta and Mark Drawbaugh