

Church Hill Activities And Tutoring

Opening Homes, Transforming Lives, Rebuilding Communities

January 24, 2014

Church Hill Activities and Tutoring
601 N 31st Street
Richmond, VA 23223
Chris Whiting, Operations Director

To whom it may concern,

CHAT is applying for a Special Use Permit for our property located at 3021 & 3017 N Street. CHAT is a non-profit organization that equips and serves the youth of Church Hill. Our programs include the After School program, a private high school Church Hill Academy, Tiny Tykes pre-school, Summer Day Camp, and entrepreneurship programs, serving youth in grades PK – 12th grade. We have been serving the youth of Church Hill for the past 12 years. We are incredibly excited about utilizing the property at 3021 & 3017 N St to serve even more of our community's youth. We plan to use this space for our entrepreneurship, Tiny Tykes pre-school, and After School program along with general administrative space.

The current property standard is asking CHAT to tear out the green space on this property to build a parking lot. We are submitting this SUP to keep the space as is and utilize the street parking along with additional spaces at Thirty-First Street Baptist Church. CHAT hopes to keep the green space as is and utilize it for our urban gardening program along with hosting community events. 95% of CHAT's staff reside in Church Hill and many staff bike or walk to work, making the need for additional parking even less significant. Please consider approving the SUP for CHAT's 3021 N Street Property so that they can utilize that space for the betterment of the Church Hill community. We have spoken with our neighbors surrounding this property along with our City Council Representative, Cynthia Newbille, and Senior Pastor at Thirty-First Street Baptist Church, Dr. Morris Henderson, who are all in support of us keeping the property as is.

Sincerely,



Chris Whiting
Director of Operations

601 North 31st Street
Richmond, VA 23223

(804) 236-4964
info@chatrichmond.org
www.chatrichmond.org



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To City Council, Zoning and to whom it may concern:

CHAT is applying for a SUP for the 3021 N Street Property. We are all neighbors to this property and are excited to see this project come to fruition. CHAT is a non-profit organization that equips and serves the youth of Church Hill. It has been an incredible asset to the neighborhood for the past 12 years, and we look forward to see CHAT use this space to serve even more of our community's youth. The current standard will force CHAT to tear out the green space on their property and build a parking lot. The SUP would allow them to keep that space as it is. CHAT has a high commitment to being good ecological stewards in this community through urban gardening, and to being good neighbors by hosting community events on this space. To tear up a large portion of green space would inhibit CHAT from engaging in these beneficial activities. With ample street parking on the property, along with the existence of a parking lot across the street, forcing CHAT to build a parking lot would be an incredible waste. 95% of CHAT's staff reside in Church Hill. Many staff bike or walk to work, making the parking lot even less significant. Please consider approving the SUP for CHAT's 3021 N Street Property so that they can utilize that space for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

Name	Address
Donell Green	703 N. 31st Rich. 23222
Mary Cousins	804 N. 31st, Rich. 23223
Karl Jackson	805 N 30th St, Rich. 23223
Glenn Harrison	806 N. 31st Richmond 23223
Tracy Falkenstein	705 North 30th Street
Antione P. Mauer	705 North 30th Street
Bernard P. Mauer	705 North 30th Street
La Dale J. Baker	705 North 30th Street
Jessie M. Hill	707 N. 30th St. 23223
Keera Brest	701 N. 30th St. 23223
Steven Dales	705 N. 31st. 23223
Alexanne Karoma	705 N. 31st. 23223
Gary Dales	705 N. 31st 23223
Julia O. White	3100 'M' Street

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CHAT

To whom it may concern,

My name is Daniel Komline, I live at 601 N 31st St, just down the block from CHAT's 3021 N Street property. From what I understand, the current zoning laws require CHAT to put a parking lot on the property. While I understand the rationale behind this requirement, I really think that in this case it isn't necessary.

Parking on this block is never a problem. On the block of N St between 30th and 31st, there are no residences. There is rarely a car parked on the block, but it could easily accommodate 20 to 30 vehicles. Parking on my block where there are homes is never a problem. I've never had to park more than 50 feet from my door. It just isn't an issue. 31st St Baptist Church is also located directly across the street from the 3021 N St property, which offers ample parking. With the exception of Sundays, the lot is hardly used.

I also appreciate what CHAT does with the green space that they have. The community events that they are able to host on the property that I myself have attended have been really special for this immediate neighborhood as well as the youth of Church Hill. Having the green space allowed them to host the event in a very child friendly way, and parking was never an issue, even with upwards of 200 people in attendance. From what I understand, the youth that CHAT works with are from Church Hill, as well as the vast majority of their staff. They tend to walk or ride bikes to work, making parking a non issue.

A parking lot is an eye soar and an environmental hazard. This block doesn't need another one that won't be used. Please consider granting the special use permit.

Thank you,



Daniel Komline
601 N 31st St
Richmond, VA

Barbara Branch
722 Chimborazo Blvd
Church Hill, VA 23223-7631
Mobile: 703.625.6019

January 14, 2014

To City Council, City Zoning Commission and to whom it may concern:

CHAT has applied for a SUP for the 3017 N Street Property. I am writing in support of this permit request.

First, CHAT, which is a nonprofit that seeks to equip and serve the youth of Church Hill for the last 12 years is an incredible asset in our community. I have no doubt that their use of this new space will lead to the continued flourishing of our entire community. *Note, that I live two blocks from the property.* Also when I moved to the neighborhood in 2008, I met Percy and Angie Strickland who at that time lived in my block. I soon learned that we shared a passion: The children of Church Hill North. I am aware of CHAT's activities of which I am very supportive to include their use of this property.

Second, the current standard will force them to tear out their green space at the 3017 N Street Property to build a 'parking lot'. CHAT has a high commitment to green space, gardening and ecological stewardship of our community. To tear up a large portion of green space will be an incredible waste. There is ample street parking and a parking lot across the street. CHAT serves only youth in Church Hill. Most, if not all of them, can walk to the space. Also, 95 percent of CHAT's staff lives in Church Hill North. Most bike to work or walk just like the youth they serve. This makes the necessity of additional parking even more unnecessary.

To further support CHAT's "green initiative," I refer you to the 2014 January edition of The Richmond Magazine and their article about the grant that CHAT recently received to be used for their gardening and other land use activities.

Please consider approving the SUP for CHAT's N Street Property so that they can utilize that space well.

Sincerely yours,



Barbara Branch

CC: Cynthia Newbille, 7th District Councilwoman
Church Hill Central Civic Association
Church Hill Association

City Council, Zoning, and All other pertinent parties:

Hello, my name is Courtney Harvey, and I am currently a resident of 611 N. 31st Street. It has been brought to my attention that the city is requiring the property affectionately known by the neighborhood as the 'Resurrection House' to convert its green yard space into a parking lot. Personally, I feel that this is an unnecessary requirement because there has never been any problem, on any day of the week, parking along the street, whether it be on my block or the block that this building sits on. Even when I've attended special events at this location in which many people drive and park by the building, there has always been ample parking. Additionally, I feel that the grassy area behind the building has been utilized well by the organization that owns it, and it fosters more of a relaxed, familial and community feel than another slab of concrete never could. All in all, I am a strong proponent of the organization that owns the lot to receive a special use permit to prevent the laying down of a parking lot that we are in no need of.

Thank you,



Courtney A Harvey

611 N. 31st Street

Richmond, VA 23223