



Parts

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January 24, 2020

Richmond City Council
900 E. Broad Street Suite 305
Richmond, VA 23219

Attention:

Council President, Cynthia Newbille
Council Vice President, Chris Hilbert
Councilmember, Andreas Addison
Councilmember, Kimberly Gray
Councilmember, Kristen Larson
Councilmember, Stephanie Lynch
Councilmember, Ellen Robertson
Councilmember, Reva Trammell
Councilmember, Michael Jones

RE: ORD. 2019-328 Special Use Permit for 1900 Chamberlayne Ave.

As a long-term business owner in the Chamberlayne Industrial Center (1529 Brook Road), we oppose issuing a Special Use Permit (SUP) for 1900 Chamberlayne Ave. It has recently come to our attention that our Councilmember Chris Hilbert will not be representing the very district that The Salvation Army (TSA) SUP is being considered for. It is deeply concerning that a BIG shift in zoning change in our area comes WITHOUT representation within city governance. This is a problem.

Our business and employees were active participants in city planning over the past decade. The master plan that was adopted in 2015 by the city is now being considered for a drastic change in zoning, and will be setting precedent for future changes. We ask that you follow the plan you have adopted and listen to the businesses and residents of this area. The proposed SUP does not fit with the city master plan for this area. This industrial area is active, filled with productive businesses, and represents many livelihoods for families inside Richmond City and the surrounding area. We are proud of our neighborhood.

We have learned our neighborhood-at-large has a similar voice to opposition to TSA SUP. The lack of response from the TSA, the Mayor, and other agencies leaves us wary. The proposal has been modified several times, using different words and phrases, in an attempt to get approval. If this proposal was infallible, the truth and merit of the proposal would stand on its own. It currently does not.

Again, we oppose the Salvation Army SUP. Our business, its assets, its employees, and their families have a genuine stake in this neighborhood.

Sincerely,

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Lufteknik