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Sent: Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:58 PM
To: Brown, Jonathan W. - PDR
Subject: Museum District Development - 3400 Floyd/Ellwood

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Richmond City Officials,

This week there was a public meeting hosted by the Museum District Association (MDA) to review a Special Use Permit (SUP) application for a residential alley infill project. The meeting was held on the proposed site, in the alley of the 3400 block between Floyd and Ellwood Avenues. The owner of the garages and surface parking in the alley would like to tear down garages and build rental units in the alley behind approximately 40 existing homes.

The spaces behind so many of our properties in the City were designed to give RESIDENCE a place to park, gather, walk pets or children away from traffic and create reasonable space between neighboring structures. With so many areas of the City still under and undeveloped why do you continue to force structures - small and tall - into our historic and already dense communities? Instead of taking the few, small parcels of land we have left in the MDA why not look at elevating and developing other areas of the City that need more City attention.

I know the development mantra is “affordable housing”. And while this makes for a wonderful sound bite, no one should claim that developing property in and around the MDA is going to be affordable to many who call the City of Richmond home. Just look at the “affordable housing” in Scott’s Addition – 2 bed, 2 bath with less than 900 sq ft which rents for \$2,000+. Is that what we are now calling affordable? As a landlord of a comparably sized, historic property in the Fan, we only rent for \$1400 so I am not sure how anyone can continue to claim that so much of the current development is benefiting the average individual.

I have lived and owned property in The Fan, Ginter Park and now the Museum District. I, along with my family and neighbors, have conducted weekly patrols to rid major thoroughfares of drugs and prostitution, spent weekends picking up litter, advocated for better street lighting and financially supported the installation of trees and other greenery to enhance these neighborhoods. Please do not make our work in vain. Please listen to those who have worked for DECADES to make Richmond neighborhoods attractive and desirable areas that already generate millions in revenue for this City. Please stop destroying what many of us have spent years building and please help us continue to encourage others from the countries and other states to chose Richmond.

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