

## Son, Joshua L. - PDR

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**From:** charles woodson <candylandmusic@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:03 AM  
**To:** Son, Joshua L. - PDR  
**Cc:** Agelasto, Parker C. - City Council; Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council  
**Subject:** Monroe Park signage UDC review

Dear Mr Son

Regarding UDC 2018-15- Location, Character and Extent of signage proposed to be added to Monroe Park:

The Oregon Hill Neighborhood Association, after reviewing the proposal and engaging in subsequent discussion by membership at our March 27, 2018 meeting, unanimously passed a resolution opposing the proposal as presented by the Monroe Park Conservancy (hereafter referred to as the "Conservancy"). Our membership requested that I write this letter to the UDC on their behalf.

A major question of the membership was why much of this signage was necessary when you can easily see from one side of the park to the other. The location of features in the park can easily be determined by sight. Some signage is redundant such as the history of the park which is already described in detail on a Virginia Department of Historic Resources Highway Marker sign located at S Laurel and Cathedral Place at the park's entrance. The signs are oppressively large in the proposal at up to 4 feet wide and 7 feet tall and are made of materials incongruous with the history of the park. The Conservancy representatives refused to answer whether the 7 foot sign with donor brands on it would be free standing or attached to the Checkers House, which is listed as a contributing structure to the Monroe Park Historic District. Either way, the sign is bad design, presenting a safety hazard as a bullet proof hiding place for possible robbers or gunmen if free standing and as a detrimental aesthetic ornamentation if attached by fasteners to the mortar of the Checkers house brickwork. There is no reason to designate the radial pathways as bike lanes since they serve that purpose naturally. All of the superfluous signage just clutters the sight lines in the park and detract from the natural beauty.

The Oregon Hill Neighborhood Association respectfully submit to the UDC the following suggestions:

- There are three signs we would endorse in Monroe Park. The first being a small sign "park under video surveillance" near the fountain. We believe this could serve as a deterrent to crime. It would also be advisable to add MINIMAL signage at a few designated park entrances noting park rules, i.e. no open fires, etc. We would also endorse small signs, as used in other areas by the Richmond Tree Stewards, to denote individual tree species. We ask that any such signs be attached with utmost care as not to damage any more old growth trees.

\* If the Conservancy must acknowledge the major corporate and private donors to the renovation, we suggest that small plaques be attached to the numerous benches in the park as is done in other public parks to minimize visual impact.

Thank you for considering our suggestions.

Respectfully,

Charles T. Woodson, president  
Oregon Hill Neighborhood Association, inc.

## Son, Joshua L. - PDR

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**From:** jerome legions <jeromelegions1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:31 AM  
**To:** charles woodson  
**Cc:** Son, Joshua L. - PDR; Agelasto, Parker C. - City Council; Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council; Jonathan Marcus  
**Subject:** Re: Monroe Park signage UDC review

Dear Mr. Son,

As president of CACIL Carver Area Civic Improvement League, I would like you to consider the members of the Carver Community to be in agreement with Oregon Hill Neighborhood Associations, Inc. We support this request of OHNA, Inc because they have addressed concerns of Safety as well as submitted an alternative. I hope that the suggestions of OHNA will be instituted.

Jerome Legions, President  
Carver Area Civic Improvement League.

On Wed, Mar 28, 2018 at 8:02 AM, charles woodson <[candylandmusic@earthlink.net](mailto:candylandmusic@earthlink.net)> wrote:  
Dear Mr Son

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Respectfully,

Charles T. Woodson, president  
Oregon Hill Neighborhood Association, inc.

## Son, Joshua L. - PDR

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**From:** Bryan Connolly <bkconnolly0@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 31, 2018 11:44 PM  
**To:** Son, Joshua L. - PDR  
**Subject:** Monroe Park signs

Hello Mr. Son,

I am writing to express my concern over the newly proposed signs to be put up in Monroe Park. 4' by 7' metal signs do not seem appropriate to me for the old Victorian park. I would like to suggest that smaller signs be used so as to not disrupt the aesthetics of the space. I, a citizen of Richmond living near Monroe Park, hope you will take my suggestion into consideration.

Best,  
Bryan Connolly

## Son, Joshua L. - PDR

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**From:** flightofthecrow <dave@flightofthecrow.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 30, 2018 5:23 PM  
**To:** Son, Joshua L. - PDR  
**Subject:** Monroe Park commercialization

Sir,

I'm writing to you to express my opposition to the proposed signage plan #UDC 2018-15 as it contains too many signs that are too large for this small historic Victorian Park.

I'm completely against the commercialization of Monroe Park.

Thanks.

David Austin

Sent from my iPad

## Son, Joshua L. - PDR

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**From:** J. Holdren <jayholdren@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 30, 2018 6:40 AM  
**To:** Son, Joshua L. - PDR  
**Subject:** Monroe Park "Conservancy" proposed signage plan

Joshua

I understand The Monroe Park "Conservancy" has a proposed signage plan coming before the UDC for approval in early April-with some signs up to 7 feet high with the brands of Dominion Energy and other corporate entities.

This will oppressively ruin the natural park sight lines.

Please reconsider.

I am opposing the proposed signage plan #UDC 2018-15 as it contains too many signs that are too large for this small historic Victorian Park.

Thanks.

James Holdren

## Son, Joshua L. - PDR

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**From:** Laura Pharis <lpharis@sbc.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 31, 2018 9:38 AM  
**To:** Son, Joshua L. - PDR  
**Subject:** Poor Monroe Park

I understand that the plan to continue ruining Monroe Park proposes following up the destruction of the tree canopy with installing oppressive signs up to 7 feet high with the brands of Dominion Energy and other corporate entities, spoiling the park's natural sight lines.

This is tasteless and destructive. A park is supposed to be a restorative GREEN space, not a bunch of advertising billboards.

As a lover of Richmond, I oppose the proposed signage plan [#UDC 2018-15](#).

It contains too many signs that are too large for this small historic Victorian Park.

I hope better judgement will prevail.

Thanks,  
Laura Pharis

## Son, Joshua L. - PDR

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**From:** John Moser <jmoser@moser-productions.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 4, 2018 2:38 PM  
**To:** Son, Joshua L. - PDR  
**Subject:** UDC 2018-15 - signs in Monroe Park

Dear Urban Design Committee:

I write to voice my opposition to signage currently proposed for Monroe Park and to request that signs in general and donor signage especially be as small and discreet as possible. It is depressing to live in a place where the names and logos of corporate and other donors are plastered at every public event and on more and more public buildings and projects. Please don't turn Monroe Park into a great big advertisement.

Best regards,

John Moser  
1409 Westbrook Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23227  
(council district 3)



## Son, Joshua L. - PDR

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**From:** caroline <carolion1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 4, 2018 2:57 PM  
**To:** Son, Joshua L. - PDR  
**Subject:** Signs in Monroe Park

Hello Mr. Son and members of the UDC:

Now that so many trees have been cut down by the Monroe Park Conservancy, there is no need for directional signs.

You can see clear across the park.

Please deny the Monroe Park Conservancy's request for large signs.

Inserting sign attachments into old mortar cannot be good for the Checkers House.

Moreover, discreet signs on benches thanking Monroe Park Conservancy donators is more attractive than oversized signs.

Big signs will be graffiti magnets and cause increased costs to the Conservancy and Richmond Citizens.

Yours,

Caroline Cox