

## Saunders, Richard L. - PDR

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**From:** Heather Reynolds <kaizan615@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 3, 2021 10:46 PM  
**To:** PDR Land Use Admin; Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Wagner, Daniel M. - City Council Office  
**Subject:** Opposition to SUP Ordinance 2021-325 -

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Dear Councilman Addison, Mr. Brown, and members of the Richmond Planning Commission,

I wish to express to you my opposition to the proposed SUP Ordinance 2021-325. I am new to the Museum District here in Richmond, as I closed on a property on Ellwood Avenue in September of this year. After extensive research of multiple cities such as San Diego, Chicago, and Charlotte, I am filled with joy and gratitude for the series of events that led me to discover my new home in this vibrant, welcoming neighborhood. Coming from a large city that has failed to keep pace with rapid expansion and overwhelming population density, I knew very specifically what I did not want. I am fortunate to have the flexibility to move anywhere, but still I had very specific requirements of what I needed to commit to a new location. What I have found here on Ellwood Avenue met all my requirements and has exceeded all my expectations.

A development like this would never have even entered my mind as something I needed to worry about it in a bustling, but still tightknit historic neighborhood. If I had known this development was a possibility it would have significantly diminished the appeal of the property and I can tell you unequivocally that it would have led me to invest in a different neighborhood here in Richmond, or potentially in one of the other cities I had considered.

While the long-term residents of the neighborhood can better speak to the neighborhood's history and culture, I can speak to the implications of this potential development that now weigh heavily on my mind. I felt like I did my due diligence to ensure that I not only found a home that I loved, but that I also chose a home in a neighborhood that gave me a sense of community and would retain value when the market cooled. Knowing that as a buyer, I would have definitely passed on this property if there were homes unnecessarily crammed into the alley, I feel confident that potential future owner occupying buyers will pass as well. This alarms me, especially as it shifts my mindset from how I plan to invest and grow in this community to wondering where I can find again what I thought I purchased here...and how much it will cost me to do so.

I love my home, my neighbors, and the endless possibilities that I see for my future in Richmond. Unfortunately, if I find myself again staring down haphazard overcrowding, especially when it benefits the minority while ignoring the will of the majority, I am unsure if that future can be a reality. I do not want to relocate, especially when I have found what took a lot of searching to discover. Like my neighbors, I have chosen to make an investment in the Museum District. I hope that my intention to build my life here and to become an active participant in this thriving community holds weight with the decision makers. I am saddened to think of the changes this development will bring, and I truly hope that the future health of this neighborhood

outweighs the potential profit of one resident. I appreciate the opportunity to express my concerns and I hope that the collective community will be heard on this matter. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Heather Reynolds

3426 Ellwood Avenue