

From: David Wheeler <wheeler.david10@gmail.com>  
Sent: Sunday, 2 April, 2023 20:52  
To: Vonck, Kevin J. - PDR <Kevin.Vonck@rva.gov>  
Subject: 3600 Grove Avenue

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Dear Mr Vonck: I understand that you are the Director of Planning and Development for Richmond. I am writing to explain my opposition to the apartment building envisioned for 3600 Grove Avenue (23221).

I have been a resident in the Mount Vernon condominiums for 52 years, I moved here when these condos were rental property, long before I-95 was built. The gully was so thick with trees that we were unaware that there was a railroad line there! We later bought when the condos were converted into properties to own.

Several neighbors and I attended the meeting at the Museum of Fine Arts early in March and expressed our opposition to the project. While I agree with the worries about increased population density creating problems with water, sewerage, drainage, and traffic, my paramount objection is to the damage such a building would do to our skyline. This would be a 6-story building in the midst of buildings that are primarily 1 or 2 stories, with a few that are 3. While the top of a 6-story building at the Grove Avenue location might not be any higher *above sea level* than, for example, the Publix market at Thompson and Cary Street, it would be seen from the same ground level as the buildings surrounding it for several blocks on any side, not from the top of the rise at Thompson and Cary Street. In short, it would "stick out like a sore thumb". Many of us think that it would dwarf in height the buildings around it and destroy the neighborhood feel of this whole residential area extending west from the Fan outwards to Willow Lawn.

I am asking that you take into consideration the feelings of the residents here, many of whom have lived in this area for many years, and to please preserve the visual character of our neighborhood.

Thank you, Mr Vonck, for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,  
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