

To: Mark A. Olinger, Director
Department of Planning and Development Review
City of Richmond
900 E. Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
Mark.olinger@richmondgov.com

Date: 12/02/2015

As the owner X /tenant _____ of ^{309 N. Adams St.} ~~305 Brook Road~~, I am aware of the City's proposed closure of a portion of Brook Road to vehicular travel via Ordinance No. 2015-251, if such ordinance is adopted.

I am in support of the City's plan to close such portion of Brook Road to vehicular travel and to create an urban plaza in its location.

Sincerely,

Lonnie Shifflett
Owner/tenant name


Signature

309 North Adams Street
Address

Richmond
City

Virginia
State

23220
Zip

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Department of Planning and Development Review
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900 E. Broad Street
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309 N. Adams St.

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I am in support of the City's plan to close such portion of Brook Road to vehicular travel and to create an urban plaza in its location.

Sincerely,

Zarina Fazaldin
Owner/tenant name


Signature

309 North Adams Street
Address

Richmond
City

Virginia
State

23220
Zip

Markham, Lory P. - PDR

From: Taber Andrew Bain [bainal@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2015 8:42 AM
To: Markham, Lory P. - PDR
Subject: Support for Closing Brook Road

Good morning Ms. Markham! I mixed up my destinations for this note once already, but I wanted to make sure it gets before the Planning Commission for their Monday 12/7 meeting to consider this paper.

As a long-time resident of the 300 block of North Adams Street, I offer my full support for Ord. 2015-251, a proposal to close the block of Brook Road between W Broad and N Adams.

Not only does closing this street to auto traffic accomplish the goal of offering a neighborhood deeply deficient in meaningful public space room for a well-designed plaza, but the current configuration and geometry is highly incompatible with the urban environment. Motorists traveling west on Broad treat this segment of Brook as a highway-style on-ramp to Adams, regularly making the turn movement at high speed and substantially endangering pedestrians crossing at both ends and creating auto conflict with northbound traffic on Adams Street.

A more traditional, low-speed right turn movement for auto traffic onto Adams is a much better fit for the character of the area, and all the needs of businesses fronting this stretch of Brook can be very easily accommodated by other nearby public right-of-way.

Adopting Ordinance 2015-251 will greatly enhance the safety, appearance, and utility of one of the signature intersections of Jackson Ward. I encourage you to approve it.

Taber Andrew Bain

Markham, Lory P. - PDR

From: Eastman, Jeff R. - PDR
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 12:12 PM
To: 'Taber Andrew Bain'
Cc: Markham, Lory P. - PDR
Subject: RE: Support for Closing Brook Road

Mr. Bain,

Thank you very much for your feedback; I am forwarding this to the Secretary to the Planning Commission, Lory Markham (copied), so that she can post it along with other pertinent documents to the City's Legistar page. The Urban Design Committee, of which I am Secretary, does not review requests for the closing of rights-of-way. For these projects, the Planning Commission provides advice to the City Council, which has the ultimate authority to close the ROW through the ordinance process.

Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions regarding this paper or the approval process.

Best,

Jeff

Jeff Eastman

Senior Planner, Planning & Preservation Division Secretary to the Urban Design Committee
Dept. of Planning and Development Review Richmond, VA
804-646-6348

<http://www.richmondgov.com/planninganddevelopmentreview/index.aspx>

-----Original Message-----

From: Taber Andrew Bain [mailto:bainal@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 11:12 AM
To: Eastman, Jeff R. - PDR
Subject: Support for Closing Brook Road

Dear Mr. Eastman,

As a longtime resident of the 300 block of North Adams Street, I offer my full support for Ord. 2015-251, a proposal to close the block of Brook Road between W Broad and N Adams.

Not only does closing this street to auto traffic accomplish the goal of offering a neighborhood deeply deficient in meaningful public space room for a well-designed plaza, but the current configuration and geometry is highly incompatible with the urban environment. Motorists traveling west on Broad treat this segment of Brook as a highway-style on-ramp to Adams, regularly making the turn movement at high speed and substantially endangering pedestrians crossing at both ends and creating auto conflict with northbound traffic on Adams Street.

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Adopting Ordinance 2015-251 will greatly enhance the safety, appearance, and utility of one of the signature intersections of Jackson Ward. I encourage you to approve it.

Taber Andrew Bain
304 N Adams St

Markham, Lory P. - PDR

From: Christopher M. Valdez [blackjack2021@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 2:05 PM
To: Markham, Lory P. - PDR
Subject: Brook Road Closure

Hello Lory, I would appreciate if you shared my note with the other members of the City Planning Commission:

I am writing this note to express my support for the plans to close Brook Road between Broad and Adams as laid out in Ord. 2015-251.

I currently live on the 300 block of Adams St right in front of the area in question. On multiple occasions I have found myself nearly ran over by cars speeding off Broad onto Brook without any concern for pedestrian safety. The addition of crosswalk paint has helped slightly, but it's just not enough for the volume of traffic. This small stretch of road does not provide much benefit to cars aside from getting to skip a light to turn north onto Adams, yet they use it all the time as if it were a highway off ramp.

Additionally, on many occasions, late at night when visibility is at its worst, that stretch of road is treated as a waiting lot for Max's valet service; I've seen cars coming off Broad having to slam on their breaks while trying to maneuver through it on more than one occasion. It's simply a safety hazard for vehicles and pedestrians alike.

That area would serve the community much better as a small park with proper, safe sidewalk access on both Adams and Broad. Its current form benefits only the businesses immediately adjacent to it at the expense of everyone else in the neighborhood. I'm hoping that closing Brook will be a step towards turning this area into something we can all enjoy.

For these reasons I support adopting Ord. 2015-251 to close Brook Rd.

Thank you,

Christopher M Valdez
Jackson Ward Resident