

City of Richmond Formal Meeting Minutes

900 East Broad Street Richmond, VA 23219 www.rva.gov/office-city-clerk

Monday, April 26, 2021

6:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall Virtual Meeting

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, President

The Honorable Ellen Robertson, Vice President

The Honorable Andreas Addison (late arrival)

The Honorable Michael Jones (late arrival)

The Honorable Katherine Jordan

The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert (early departure)

The Honorable Kristen Larson

The Honorable Stephanie Lynch (late arrival)

The Honorable Reva Trammell

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., and presided.

ELECTRONIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

City Clerk Candice Reid, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020, as most recently amended by Ordinance No. 2020-232, adopted December 14, 2020, announced the meeting would be held through electronic communication means. City Clerk Reid stated notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on April 14, 2021, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. She also stated members of the public were encouraged to provide comments in writing prior to the meeting and all comments received prior to 10:00 a.m., on Monday, April 26, 2021, were provided to Council members. Ms. Reid indicated that members of the public who signed up to speak and provide comment would be called to speak at the appropriate time.

Invocation was offered by Reverend Jeanne Pupke of First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1000 Blanton Avenue, Richmond, VA.

Councilor Michael Jones entered the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Councilor Andreas Addison joined the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Members of Council and the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN SPEAKER GUIDELINES

Upon the President's request, Deputy City Clerk RJ Warren provided citizen speaker guidelines.

APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

There were no appointment/reappointment items for consideration.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no awards or presentations.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Citizens were provided an opportunity to offer comments in writing prior to the Formal City Council meeting. All written citizen comments received by the Office of the City Clerk were provided to members of the Council prior to the meeting, and are included as an appendix to the April 26, 2021 Formal City Council meeting minutes.

Jonathan Marcus addressed Council regarding proposed casinos being considered by the city, and he stated that he discussed the proposed casinos with several neighborhood associations throughout the city. Mr. Marcus also stated that the majority of the associations had issued statements in opposition to the casinos. Mr. Marcus further stated that he believed a casino would have a negative impact on home values, and he expressed his concern with the casino business model.

Laura Vetter, West Avenue Improvement Association representative, addressed Council and stated that 94.2 percent of West Avenue Improvement Association members voted in opposition of the proposed Live! Casino & Hotel Richmond. Ms. Vetter also stated that members were most concerned with the proposed size of the casino and the impact it would have on surrounding communities.

Fred Orelove, Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University Professor Emeritus, addressed Council and stated that he was opposed to the proposed Live! Casino & Hotel Richmond. Dr. Orelove also stated that he believed the city was poised for greatness, and that the city should avoid the major mistake of allowing a casino to be established in the city. Dr. Orelove further stated his concerns with a casino's impact on local traffic, restaurants and businesses.

Paige Goodpasture addressed Council and stated that she was opposed to the proposed Live! Casino & Hotel Richmond. Ms. Goodpasture further expressed her concerns of the proposed size of the Live! Casino & Hotel Richmond, and its impact on surrounding neighborhoods and traffic. Ms. Goodpasture also stated that if the city must have a casino, then one should be established in a neighborhood with the greatest need for economic stimulus.

Joseph Seiepl addressed Council and stated that he was opposed to the proposed Live! Casino & Hotel Richmond. Mr. Seiepl also stated that he saw no potential benefit to the city and its neighborhoods, and that he believed it would have a negative impact on the nearby proposed Virginia Commonwealth University Athletics Village.

Deirdre Wray addressed Council and stated that she was opposed to the establishment of any casino within the city, specifically the proposed Live! Casino & Hotel Richmond. Ms. Wray informed Council of her concerns with the impact the Live! Casino & Hotel Richmond would have on surrounding neighborhoods.

Deborah Oswalt addressed Council and stated that she was opposed to the proposed Live! Casino & Hotel Richmond. Ms. Oswalt informed Council of her concerns with the impact the Live! Casino & Hotel Richmond would have on traffic in surrounding neighborhoods and on interstate highways. Ms. Oswalt also expressed her concerns with the proposed size of the casino.

Trina Lee addressed Council and stated that she was opposed to the proposed Live! Casino & Hotel Richmond. Ms. Lee also stated that local restaurants and businesses surrounding the proposed casino would be negatively impacted by an established casino. Ms. Lee further expressed her concerns with the size of the proposed casino and its impact on traffic.

AGENDA REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS

Councilor Michael Jones moved to amend the agenda as follows:

ORD. 2021-083

To authorize the special use of the property known as 109 North Plum Street for the purpose of no more than one dwelling unit within an accessory building to an existing single-family dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

To be continued to Monday, May 10, 2021

ORD. 2021-084

To authorize the special use of the property known as 520 North 25th Street for the purpose of a restaurant and beverage service establishment, upon certain terms and conditions.

To be amended and continued to Monday, May 24, 2021

ORD. 2021-085

To conditionally rezone the property known as 1801 East Main Street from the M-1 Light Industrial District to the TOD-1C Transit-Oriented Nodal District (Conditional), upon certain proffered conditions.

To be continued to Monday, May 24, 2021

RES. 2021-R023

To adopt budgetary policies under which the City will endeavor to provide operating funds annually for capital maintenance purposes, the City's annual required contribution for other post-employment benefits, and a self-insurance claims reserve.

To be continued to Monday, May 24, 2021

RES. 2019-R057

To require that Richmond Performing Arts Alliance take all actions necessary to sell at fair market value its property at 623 East Broad Street and contribute the proceeds thereof to its endowment as provided in a Comprehensive Agreement dated Sept. 14, 2007.

To be continued to Monday, February 28, 2022

There were no comments or discussion and the **motion to amend the agenda was seconded and approved:** Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Larson, Trammell, Jones, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None. Lynch was excused.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following ordinances and resolution were considered:

ORD. 2021-078

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept \$2,067,260.00 from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the

Department of Public Works' Shared Mobility Special Fund by \$2,067,260.00 for the purpose of funding the BRT Red-Colored Pavement Program on Broad Street from Willow Lawn to Rocketts Landing.

ORD. 2021-086

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Project Agreement for Use of Commonwealth Transportation Funds Fiscal Year 2021 between the City of Richmond and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation for the purpose of receiving grant funds in the amount of \$2,067,260.00 to fund the BRT Red-Colored Pavement Program on Broad Street from Willow Lawn to Rocketts Landing.

ORD. 2021-087

To amend Ord. No. 2020-049, adopted May 11, 2020, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, by re-appropriating a \$467,000.00 portion of the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 fund balance excess identified as an assignment of "Unspent Building Code Fees" in the City's 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, and to appropriate these funds to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Planning and Development Review by \$467,000.00 for the purpose of supporting the local building department functions of the Department of Planning and Development Review's Division of Permits and Inspections in compliance with Va. Code § 36-105.

ORD. 2021-088

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept a donation from Aramark Services, Inc., trading as Lifeworks Restaurant Group, of coffee and cookies valued at approximately \$90,000.00 for the purpose of providing refreshments to all Department of Fire and Emergency Services personnel to express appreciation for the work of first responders and support staff.

ORD. 2021-090

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept \$472,500.00 from the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond consisting of funds deposited by the Commonwealth of Virginia for the Virginia Department of Transportation's acquisition of a portion of City-owned property located at 800 North 3rd Street with such funds to be credited to the Reserve Fund for Permanent Public Improvements and, in connection therewith, to execute an Agreement between the City and the Commonwealth of Virginia for the purpose of accepting compensation and settling all claims for such acquisition.

ORD. 2021-091

To amend Ord. No. 2020-051, adopted May 11, 2020, which accepted a program of proposed Capital Improvements Projects for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 and the four fiscal years thereafter, adopted a Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, and determined a means of financing the same, by (i) establishing a new project in the City Facilities category called the "Theatre Row Building (730 E. Broad Street) - DJS/ADC Renovations" project and (ii) increasing estimated revenues from the sale of the Public Safety Building and the amount appropriated to the new Department of Public Works' Theatre Row Building (730 E. Broad Street) - DJS/ADC Renovations project by \$352,000.00 for the purpose of renovating the Theatre Row Building located at 730 East Broad Street for use by the Department of Justice Services and the Adult Drug Court program.

ORD. 2021-092

To declare that a public necessity exists and to authorize the acquisition of certain fee simple interests and easements for the public purpose of facilitating the construction of the East Richmond Road over Gillies Creek bridge replacement project.

ORD. 2021-093

To declare that a public necessity exists and to authorize the acquisition of certain fee simple interests and easements for the public purpose of facilitating the construction of the East Richmond Road over Stony Run Creek bridge replacement project.

ORD. 2021-094

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Deed of Easement between the City of Richmond and the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Motor Vehicles, for the purpose of accepting from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Motor Vehicles, a gas utility easement on, over, under, and across a right-of-way located along 2300 West Broad Street to lay, erect, construct, install, operate, maintain, and repair one or more lines of underground pipes, conduits, and equipment, accessories, and appurtenances necessary for the transportation or distribution of natural gas over the said right-of-way.

RES. 2021-R024

To accept and approve the biennial real estate strategies plan entitled "2020 Biennial Real Estate Strategies Plan."

Public Hearing

Erica Sims, Maggie Walker Community Land Trust and Richmond Land Bank chief executive officer, spoke in support of RES. 2021-R024, and stated that she appreciated Council's continued work on affordable housing. Ms. Sims informed Council that she believed RES. 2021-R024 would help promote affordable housing and offer much needed housing options to families in the city. Ms. Sims also provided Council with information regarding how a land bank operates and what it can provide to citizens.

Gwen Corley Creighton, Maggie Walker Community Land Trust Citizen Advisory Panel member, and Richmond Land Bank member, spoke in support of RES. 2021-R024, and provided information regarding the Maggie Walker Community Land Trust and Richmond Land Bank's work with transferring tax delinquent properties to non-profits. Ms. Creighton stated the property transfers led to the construction of 23 new affordable homes within the city.

There were no further comments or discussions and the **Consent Agenda was adopted:** Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Larson, Trammell, Jones, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None. Lynch was excused.

REGULAR AGENDA

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2021-089

To amend Ord. No. 2020-164, adopted Aug. 10, 2020, as previously amended by Ord. No. 2020-191, adopted Sept. 28, 2020, which authorized the Chief Administrative Officer to submit an amended Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as an application for the receipt of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funds; accepted funds from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the total amount of \$14,956,215.00; and appropriated \$14,956,215.00 for various projects, to appropriate \$1,362,346.00 in additional CDBG-CV funds received, reallocate \$337,654.00 in previously appropriated CDBG-CV funds, and authorize the submission of a further amended version of the amended Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

Daniel Mouer, Department of Housing and Community Development project development manager, provided an introduction and background information regarding the proposed ordinance.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert inquired if there was a list of city programs that would benefit from the received funds referenced in ORD. 2021-089.

Mr. Mouer stated that the funds would be used for activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on citizens. Mr. Mouer also stated that the ordinance would establish funding for a city work force development program within the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities.

Councilor Katherine Jordan inquired how long the city possessed the funds referenced in ORD, 2021-089.

Mr. Mouer provided information regarding the receipt and use of funds over the past year. Mr. Mouer also stated that the greatest need identified for the funds was job training and housing for individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Vice President Ellen Robertson inquired about any additional legislation necessary for future developments related to the funds referenced in ORD. 2021-089.

Sharon Ebert, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Economic and Community Development, provided information regarding the city's work with a nonprofit organization related to the Greater Richmond Continuum of Care, and the potential purchase of property for future development.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Ord. 2021-089 was adopted**: Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Larson, Trammell, Jones, Robertson, Newbille. Noes None. Lynch was excused.

MOTIONS

Councilor Andreas Addison moved that the ordinance entitled:

ORD. 2021-084

To authorize the special use of the property known as 520 North 25th Street for the purpose of a restaurant and beverage service establishment, upon certain terms and conditions.

be amended and continued to Monday, May 24, 2021, as follows:

Page 4, Line 10

At the beginning of the line, insert a subdivision "(j)" followed by the text "A bike rack for at least eight bicycles shall be provided on the Property in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 30, Article IX, Division 4 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended" followed by a period

Page 4, Line 13

At the beginning of the line, insert a subdivision "(k)" followed by the text "The capacity of the interior of the two-story building on the Property shall be limited to 200 patrons" followed by a period

Page 4, Line 15

At the beginning of the line, insert a subdivision "(I)" followed by the text "The screening of mechanical equipment, as required by subsection (f) of this section 3, shall be in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 30, Article IX, Division 4 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended. Any sheds on the Property shall be screened in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 30, Article IX, Division 4 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended" followed by a period

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no amendments or corrections to the meeting minutes of the Informal and Formal Council Sessions held on Monday, April 12, 2021, at 4:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m., respectively, and Council approved the minutes as presented.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances and resolution on Monday, May 10, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.:

ORD. 2021-105

To provide that the Director of Finance shall credit all funds received by the City, whether from the United States government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or otherwise, provided pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to a special reserve assigned for purposes authorized by such Act.

Patrons: President Newbille and Vice President Robertson

This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(2).

ORD. 2021-106

To declare surplus and to direct the sale of certain City-owned real estate for nominal consideration to The Maggie Walker Community Land Trust for the purpose of facilitating the redevelopment thereof.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 3, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-107

To amend and reordain City Code § 9-58, which assigns polling places in the city, to relocate and establish a new polling place for Precinct 111.

Patron: Mr. Addison

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Governmental Operations Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

RES. 2021-R025

To establish a process for completing the final disposition in accordance with Ord. No. 2020-154, adopted Aug. 3, 2020, of certain Confederate monuments removed from City-owned property.

Patron: President Newbille

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting on Monday, May 3, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances and resolutions on Monday, May 24, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.:

ORD. 2021-108

To close, to public use and travel, a portion of an alley bounded by Hampton Street, Colorado Avenue, South Meadow Street, and Dakota Avenue, consisting of 2,296± square feet, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-109

To authorize the special use of the property known as 415 North 35th street for the purpose of two single-family attached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-110

To authorize the special use of the property known as 513 Northside Avenue for the purpose of a dwelling unit within an accessory building to an existing single-family dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-111

To authorize the special use of the property known as 1005 Westover Hills Boulevard for the purpose of a mixed-use building, containing up to twelve dwelling units and commercial space, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-112

To authorize the special use of the property known as 1402 Roseneath Road for the purpose of an automated teller machine accessible from the exterior of a building, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-113

To authorize the special use of the property known as 2006 Carver Street for the purpose of two single-family attached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-114

To authorize the special use of the property known as 3017 Forest Hill Avenue for the purpose of a day nursery for up to 12 children, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-115

To conditionally rezone the properties known as 2 Manchester Road and 4 Manchester Road from the RF-1 Riverfront District to the B-4 Central Business District (Conditional), upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-116

To rezone the property known 4401 East Main Street from the RF-2 Riverfront District to the TOD-1 Transit-Oriented Nodal District.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2021-117

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a City of Richmond Grant Contract between the City of Richmond and the James River Association to provide funding for the implementation of green infrastructure practices to increase stormwater detention at certain libraries of the City known as the West End Branch, the North Avenue Branch, and the Broad Rock Branch.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

ORD. 2021-118

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Greening Richmond Public Libraries Project, West End Branch, North Avenue Branch, and Broad Rock Branch Right-of-Entry Agreement between the City of Richmond and the James River Association for the purpose of implementing green infrastructure practices to increase stormwater detention at certain libraries of the City known as the West End Branch, the North Avenue Branch, and the Broad Rock Branch.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

ORD. 2021-119

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Pole Attachment Agreement between the City of Richmond as licensor and VA SkyWire LLC as

licensee for the purpose of allowing the attachment and maintenance of communication cables, fibers, attachments, equipment, and other related facilities on certain City-owned utility poles.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

ORD. 2021-120

To approve the Work Plan and Budget for the fiscal year ending Jun. 30, 2022, for the provision of services in the Downtown Richmond Special Service and Assessment Districts.

Patron: President Newbille

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, May 20, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

RES. 2021-R026

To direct the City Planning Commission to prepare, submit to public hearing, and consider an amendment making certain changes to the Master Plan.

Patrons: President Newbille, Vice President Robertson, Ms. Jordan, Ms. Lambert, Ms. Lynch and Ms. Trammell

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

RES. 2021-R027

To declare a public necessity to amend ch. 30 of the City Code and to initiate an amendment to the City's zoning ordinance to eliminate parking space minimums.

Patron: Mr. Addison

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

REPORTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Members of Council provided reports and announcements regarding respective district meetings and activities.

Councilor Ann-Frances Lambert left the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

CITY CLERK

From: Suzi Horner
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Potential Casino at the Bowtie site on Arthur Ashe Blvd

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:19:49 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council Members:

I am writing to add my voice to those who stand in opposition to the proposed Bowtie site on Arthur Ashe Boulevard as a possible site for a casino complex in Richmond.

As a resident of Northside for over 35 years, I have watched development encroach on this lovely family-friendly neighborhood at an alarming rate. We have fought to keep traffic congestion to a reasonable level, as well as apartment development (often unsuccessfully thanks to Union Seminary) and maintenance of valuable green space. This is a beautifully walkable neighborhood that will be negatively impacted by the rise in traffic congestion and noise levels. We already contend with noise and traffic from the Diamond and the Raceway. PLEASE DO NOT saddle us with the casino as well.

I understand that as a potential revenue stream for the city this project will be difficult to say "no" to, however, I feel there <u>must</u> be a less intrusive and detrimental place in which to build it.

Please do not further destroy our neighborhood with this kind of development!

Most sincerely,

Suzanne Horner Sherwood Park Resident From: Donna Pendarvis
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: FW: NO CASINO ON ARTHUR ASHE Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 12:24:21 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Reid,

Kindly include these comments in the board packet for Monday's City Council meeting.

Thank you,
Donna Pendarvis

From: Donna Pendarvis

Sent: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:51 AM

Subject: NO CASINO ON ARTHUR ASHE

Dear Members of City Council and of the Evaluation Panel,

I am vehemently opposed to a casino on the site currently occupied by Bow Tie Cinemas, for these and many other reasons:

- 1. The Cordish proposal is for a self-contained, one-stop gambling, entertainment, and dining complex with 18 restaurants designed to capture every dollar from visitors. It will cannibalize fragile local restaurants already trying to recover after COVID.
- 2. The Cordish proposal conflicts with massive Northside development already in process. It is not coordinated with the proposed VCU Athletic Village, the additional densities in Scott's Addition, or the City-owned properties around the Baseball Stadium, or with the broader scale and vitality of our city.
- 3. Property values of neighborhoods adjacent to casinos decline, as seen in other cities: casinos do not enrich communities over time. According to the National Association of Realtors, "The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is unambiguously negative."
- 4. The Cordish proposal calls for a huge, out of scale complex on the Bow Tie site. At 1.9 million square feet, this project will be 1.5 times the size of Town Center at Short Pump Town Center. The impacts on existing neighborhoods, and on Arthur Ashe

- Boulevard, Leigh Street, and I-95 are unknown and, frankly, unimaginable. The Boulevard exit off I-95 is already difficult to navigate at interstate speeds.
- 5. The Cordish proposal calls for a 3,500-space structured parking garage. This is not "community-based economic development." **This is scaled for a regional mall**.
- 6. The RFP issued by the city stipulated that <u>any casino proposal must have community support</u>. The Cordish proposal at the Bow Tie site <u>fails to meet this simple requirement</u>. Citizens are overwhelmingly opposed, and multiple neighborhood associations have formally stated their opposition to the project while *none support it*.

I can't imagine how this area will be decimated by the influx of way too many people and the poor design of trying to squeeze this gargantuan complex into this area. **Please, please vote NO TO A CASINO ON ARTHUR ASHE BOULEVARD.**

Thank you,
Donna Pendarvis
Battery Park

From: Carolyn Martin
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: ONE support

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 3:22:38 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Hello - I'm writing to you to show my support for the One Casino project.

I believe the One location is the best location for this wonderful project and love the fact that it is going to be so good for our community. I love the diversity of the One company and its investors and believe they will help lift Richmond to new heights.

I was very impressed with the presentation done and feel that this company best aligns with the future of Richmond.

Please include my email in the record for the upcoming April 26th meeting.

I hope that the City agrees that One is the direction and choice we should make.

Thank you Carolyn Martin From: The Woodwards
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Oppose BowTie Movieland Site for Proposed Casino

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 2:01:11 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Candice, I sent the message below earlier this morning. I request this be included in the board packet for Monday's Council meeting. Thank you, Deborah

Sent: Fri, Apr 23, 2021 11:45 am

Subject: Oppose BowTie Movieland Site for Proposed Casino

Dear Candice,

I am writing to oppose the BowTie Movieland Site for the proposed casino. There are many challenges we've faced on Grace Street--crack houses right across the street from us with open drug dealing, prostitutes taunting our children, syringes in our backyards. We fought hard for a vibrant, family-friendly neighborhood. As a result of that decades-long effort and commitment, the neighborhood is now thriving and the tax base has risen considerably.

The proposed casino at the BowTie site would be life-changing for West Grace St, the Fan, and all adjacent neighborhoods, affecting the entire context of where we live, work and play. Cities with casinos have found that crime rates increase while property values decline. According to the National Association of Realtors, "The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is *unambiguously negative*." Casinos do not belong in or near neighborhoods; they succeed where they are sited away from them.

Thank you, Deborah Woodward 2nd District From: Jeanette Richardson
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

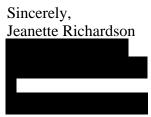
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:05:38 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: linda blake
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

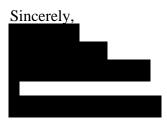
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:04:02 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Alecia Venable
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

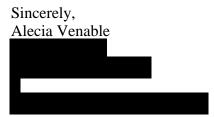
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:01:59 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Monita Howell
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

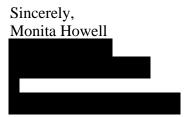
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:00:28 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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From: Mitch white
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

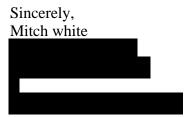
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:59:44 PM

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From: Darrin Wise
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

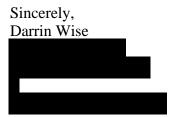
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:50:02 PM

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From: BK Fulton
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

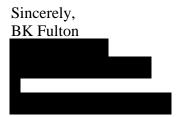
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:49:44 PM

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From: KATHRYN KING
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:20:05 PM

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From: Sherell Wood
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

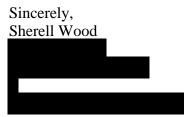
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:20:01 PM

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From: William Kidd

To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Please choose ONE

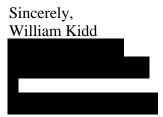
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:19:29 PM

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From: Pamela MAJETTE
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

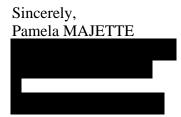
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:12:04 PM

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From: Carolyn Hobbs-Farrar
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

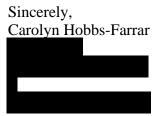
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:09:05 PM

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From: Timothy Gregory
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

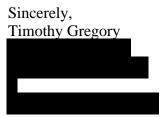
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 4:59:02 PM

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From: cynthia senior
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

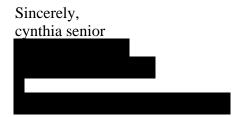
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 4:48:11 PM

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From: Krister Hampton
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

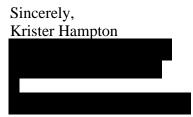
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 4:47:02 PM

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From: Leonard Lane
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

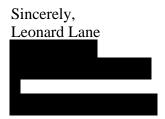
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 4:45:42 PM

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From: Patricia Brown-Coleman
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

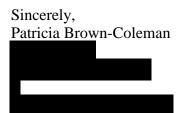
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 4:45:03 PM

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From: Stanley Jones
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

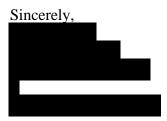
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 4:44:01 PM

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From: John Tate
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

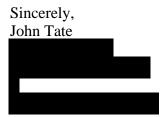
Subject: Please choose ONEplease choose ONE Date: Priday, April 23, 2021 4:54:32 PM

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From: Rodney Hall
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: [spam] OneCasino

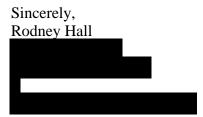
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:29:02 PM

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From: Tajuana Johnson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

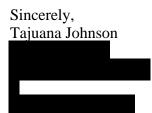
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:55:40 PM

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From: Tobias Jones
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

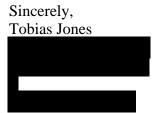
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:52:29 PM

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From: Aaliyah Matthews
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

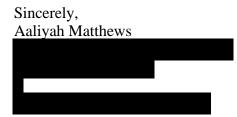
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:47:39 PM

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From: Cynthia jones
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

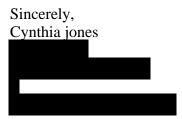
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:45:59 PM

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From: Deidra Anderson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

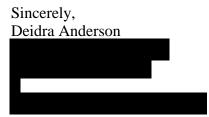
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:36:59 PM

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From: Michael Walker
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

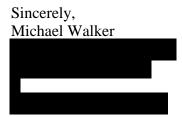
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:34:39 PM

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From: Dawn Smith
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

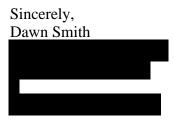
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:33:59 PM

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From: Michele Harris-Russell
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

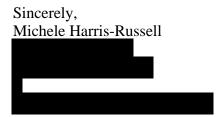
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:32:00 PM

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From: Carroll Bartholomew
To: <u>City Clerk's Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

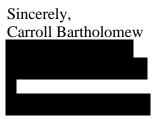
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:29:39 PM

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From: Raven Christian
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:25:40 PM

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From: Cynthia Robinson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

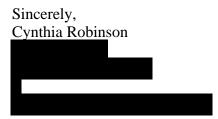
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:22:55 PM

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From: ROBERT HILL

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Please choose ONE

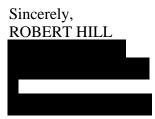
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:22:41 PM

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From: Annette Kizzie
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

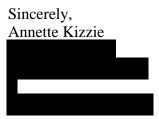
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:19:40 PM

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From: Andrew Maisonet
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

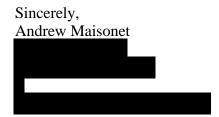
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:19:03 PM

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Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Robnette Bowman
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

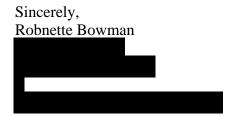
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:15:01 PM

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From: Agatha Brown
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

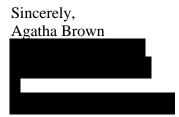
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:11:22 PM

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From: Cheryl Butler
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

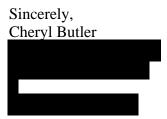
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:07:07 PM

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From: Warlisha Whisonant
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

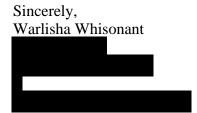
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:05:42 PM

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From: Tracie mason
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose one

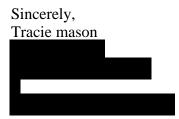
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:56:01 PM

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From: Joan Athey
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Pleaseone choose ONE

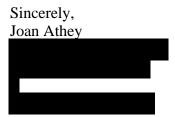
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 6:23:51 PM

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From: KEITH Elliott
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Casino Project

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:22:47 PM

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FROM: Keith & Joan Elliott,

TO: Candice D. Reid, Richmond City Clerk

Dear Ms Reid.

We request that you provide a copy of our letter to all members of the Council prior to the beginning of the meeting on Monday night, April 26.

Dear Richmond City Council members,

We have been Richmond city residents for 45 years living in the north side, not far from the Bowtie cinema complex. We want to voice our opposition to the Live! casino project which is being considered to be built in our neighborhood.

Our neighbor, Scott's Addition has had phenomenal development and success, most of which is driven by small businesses. A mammoth corporate project like the Live! casino will only negatively impact those small businesses which have worked for many years to succeed and survive.

Traffic congestion is currently difficult and the casino project will have an exponentially negative impact on this issue. We already have planned development from VCU for a sports complex and a renovated baseball field to consider.

The location of a casino in Scott's Addition is completely unnecessary and destined for more negative consequences than positive for our neighborhood.

If the Bowtie location continues to be an option for a casino, then Richmond city residents require a referendum vote to determine an outcome which will affect all of us.

Keith & Joan Elliott

From: camille lamountaincoaching.com

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Cc: <u>dennis lamountaincoaching.com</u>

Subject: FW: Opposition to the Live! Casino or ANY Casino in Richmond

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:09:46 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

image002.png image003.png

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To Candice D. Reid, City Clerk:

I understand that we are supposed to register our opposition to the Live! casino (and to all other casinos) in Richmond with you. Please see the emails below, in which we have expressed our opposition to Mayor Stoney, all Evaluation Panel members, and all City Council members.

Thank you very much.

Camille Harris & Dennis LaMountain

P.S. We also want you to know that we are in the 3rd City Council District, and our representative on City Council is Ann-Frances Lambert.

From: camille Sent: Friday, April 23, 2021 8:57 PM

To:

Cc:

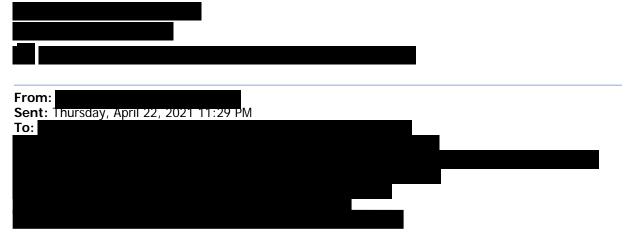
Subject: Opposition to the Live! Casino or ANY Casino in Richmond

Hello, City Council Members – We have already written to Mayor Stoney, the Evaluation Panel (including 2 City Council members), and our 3rd District Council member, Ann-Frances Lambert. Now we're writing to all of you collectively to make sure that you all know of our opposition to the Live! Casino – and actually to any casino in Richmond.

We apologize if you are getting the message (below) a second time, but we want to make sure that all nine City Council members know of our very strong objection to a casino in Richmond and particularly to the proposed Live! casino at Movieland.

We appreciate your reading the email (below). Thank you.

Camille Harris & Dennis LaMountain



Mayor Stoney, Richmond City Council Members, and Evaluation Panel Members:

My husband and I are registered voters in the City of Richmond. I am writing to voice my opposition (and my husband's opposition) to a casino in ANY neighborhood of Richmond City. We don't want or need a casino in Richmond. It would adversely affect our lives in many ways, as has been well-documented by other cities with casinos. A casino will cost our city a lot more money in the long run — if not the short run — than the projected \$ 30,000,000/year it is supposed to generate. Certainly our elected leaders and our citizens must be smart enough to figure out healthier and more broadly-supported avenues to generate additional income for our city.

As a long-term social worker, licensed clinician, and professional coach, I am also fully aware of the personal destruction that gambling can wreak on individuals and their loved ones. Why would Richmond want to endorse and even encourage such an unhealthy activity as a primary income generator? I am ashamed and dismayed that Richmond is even considering locating a casino within city boundaries.

By now, I'm sure you have heard from hundreds of Richmond voters who oppose a casino, citing data regarding failed casino efforts in other cities. So I won't repeat, in detail, what I'm sure that others have mentioned in regards to increased crime, blight, traffic, and demands on law enforcement and other city personnel.

Since we live at ______ (Ginter Place Condominiums), my husband, Dennis LaMountain, and I are particularly opposed to a casino at Movieland, just a few blocks from our residence. We would be absolutely sick to our stomachs if we had to pass by a casino when entering and leaving home. However, we want to make it very clear that we do not want or need a casino in ANY part of Richmond, and we will vote NO to all casinos in a November referendum.

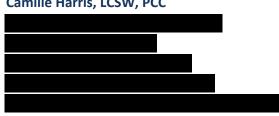
Please, please listen to the voters!! Over 90% of the residents in our surrounding neighborhood associations in North Richmond (per survey by the Ginter Park Resident Association) are opposed to a casino in Richmond, and particularly to the Live! Casino. We love our neighborhood as it is right now. Please say NO to a casino in Richmond City, and particularly to a casino at Movieland.

Thank you for listening.

Camille Harris & Dennis LaMountain



Camille Harris, LCSW, PCC



Thank you for following us!







From: George ponton
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: One

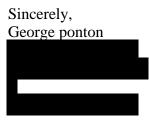
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 7:04:22 PM

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From: Lindsay Henderson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

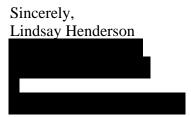
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:07:06 PM

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From: Lisa Cozart

To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Please choose ONE

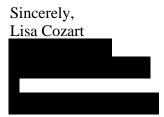
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 8:57:02 PM

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From: Carolyn Chapman
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

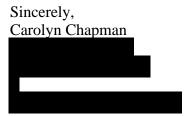
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 8:50:35 PM

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From: Deborah Brown
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

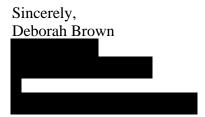
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 8:33:44 PM

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From: TONYA Washington
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

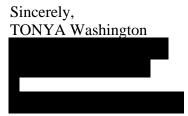
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 8:27:34 PM

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From: Charlene Carney
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

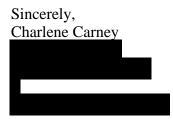
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 8:26:38 PM

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From: Christine Segers
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

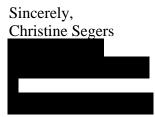
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 8:15:49 PM

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From: Ivy Dawkins

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Please choose ONE

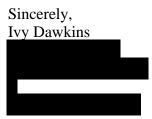
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 8:08:54 PM

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From: cordelia smith
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

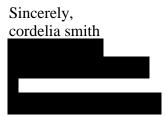
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 8:00:08 PM

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From: Crystal Henry
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

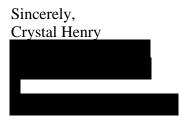
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 7:50:26 PM

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From: Rachelle Goode
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

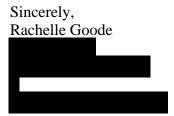
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 7:45:58 PM

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From: Clark mcmorris
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

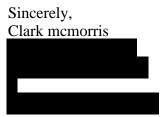
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 7:22:06 PM

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From: Felicia Joyner
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

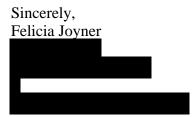
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 7:20:08 PM

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From: charles page
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

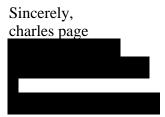
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 7:17:02 PM

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From: Ramon Hardy
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

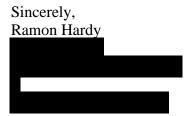
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 7:08:49 PM

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From: Ivy Hall

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: [spam] OneCasino

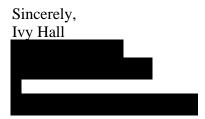
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:31:30 PM

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From: Angela Reed
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: One Casino

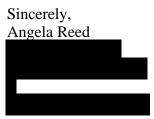
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:44:02 PM

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From: Andrew Magalski
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

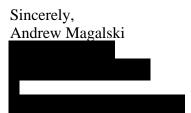
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:40:03 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Juanita Lewis
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

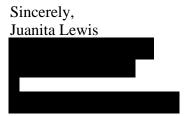
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:32:09 PM

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From: Katherine Wesley
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

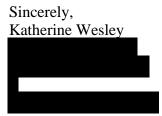
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:31:46 PM

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From: Brandon Colligan
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

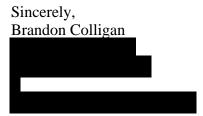
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:31:38 PM

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From: Alecia Venable
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

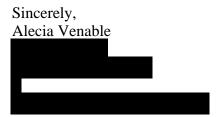
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:31:29 PM

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From: Clarette Mines
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

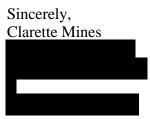
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:30:02 PM

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Dear City Council,

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From: Jamita Taylor
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

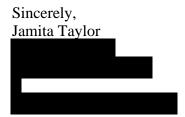
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 10:35:01 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

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From: Barbara Kelley
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

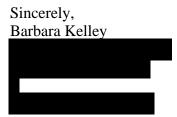
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 10:26:58 PM

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From: James Williams
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

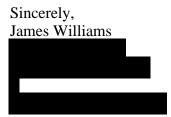
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 10:09:01 PM

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From: Salena Neblett
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

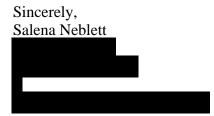
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 10:07:49 PM

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From: Antony Whitaker
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

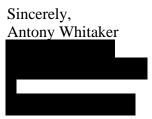
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 10:01:12 PM

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From: Regina Greene
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

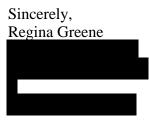
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 10:00:36 PM

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From: Kimberly Hendrick
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

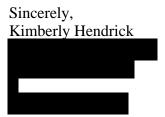
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:57:27 PM

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From: Rose Jones
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

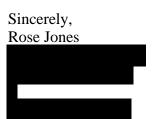
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:39:34 PM

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From: Tiffany Hanks
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

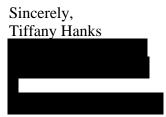
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:25:40 PM

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From: Charles Hill

To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Please choose ONE

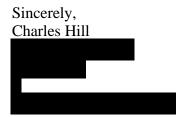
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:24:42 PM

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From: Alecia Venable
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

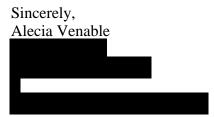
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:24:41 PM

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From: Trina Guzman
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

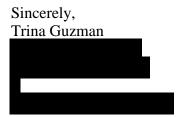
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:24:40 PM

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From: Muriel Lee
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:24:39 PM

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From: Steve Tapscott
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

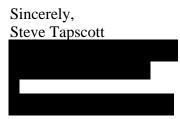
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:24:39 PM

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From: John Chambliss
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

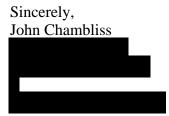
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:24:39 PM

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From: Terry Williams
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

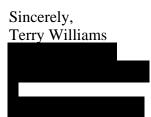
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:24:38 PM

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From: Aimee Gmail
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please no casino

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:46:24 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Please do not put a casino in Scotts Addition or any in Richmond for that matter. These neighborhoods are starting to turn around and this is the last thing we need. Please find an alternative if you need money. I'm sure there are other ways to find it.

Please let me know what I need to do to keep this from happening.

Best regards,

~Aimee Yowell Bellevue neighborhood Sent from my iPhone From: Michelle Simmons
To: City Clerk"s Office

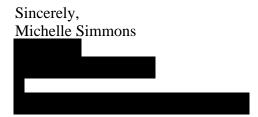
Subject: PIOk thank you ease choose ONE Date: Piday, April 23, 2021 9:41:52 PM

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From: Patricia Brown-Coleman
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: The One

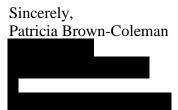
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 9:24:41 PM

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From: Coreena Barnes
To: <u>City Clerk's Office</u>
Subject: Creek leasting for

Subject: Great location for a casino

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 3:38:58 AM

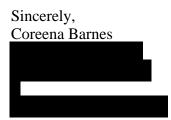
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From: Dorothy Hopkins
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

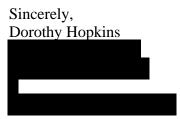
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 4:47:27 AM

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From: Monchelle Hicks
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 2:42:32 AM

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From: Denise Otey
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

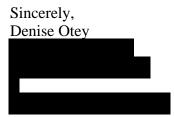
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 2:38:55 AM

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From: DeNyce Bonaparte
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

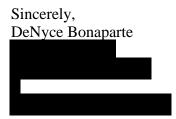
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 2:32:04 AM

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From: Jasper Thacker
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

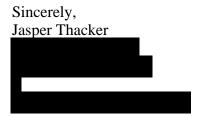
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 2:32:02 AM

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From: jocelyn Hernandez
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

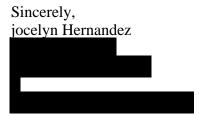
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 2:06:03 AM

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Dear City Council,

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It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Alicia Brown-ross
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

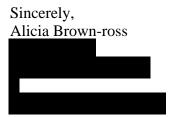
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 1:46:56 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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From: Cassandra Reynolds
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 1:46:56 AM

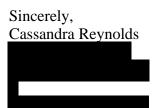
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Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

Urban One has a long history in the Richmond area. The already have a footprint here. They know the area and they know the people. It will be a natural fit. Plus, I like the idea of them offering their staff profit sharing. I don't recall either of the other proposals having that element.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: James Williams
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

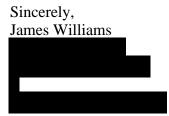
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 1:21:30 AM

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From: Tonjia Baker
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

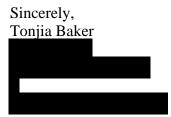
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 1:12:32 AM

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From: Darlene Chalkley
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

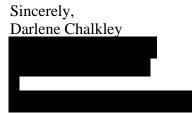
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 1:09:29 AM

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From: Alfred Nelson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

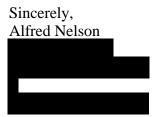
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 1:00:02 AM

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From: Robert Cunningham
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

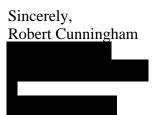
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:51:45 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

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From: Robert White
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

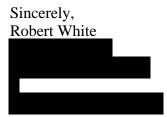
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:48:02 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

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From: Rudolph DunnTo: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

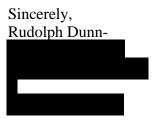
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:40:04 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

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From: Wenonah Washington
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

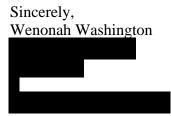
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:40:04 PM

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From: Tony Chavis
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

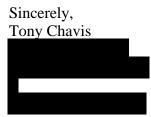
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 11:40:03 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

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From: Faith Noise
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Richmond casino

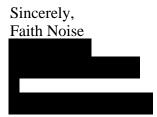
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 2:32:37 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

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From: Judy Griffith
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Yes to RadioOne Casino

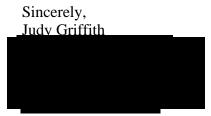
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 5:36:29 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

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From: Michelle Simmons
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: YesPlease choose ONEyes

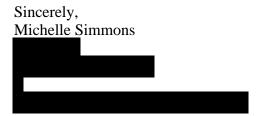
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 1:42:22 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

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From: maryacj

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Casino at BowTie

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:01:51 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To members of Richmond City Council

Please know that as a long time residents of the city of Richmond who live in close proximity to the proposed Bow Tie casino project, my husband and I voice our opposition. We oppose casinos in general but particularly one that would forever change the composition of a neighborhood of small businesses and historic residences. In addition, traffic would become impossible! Please consider this objection.

Anne and Tom Jefferson,

From: Ann Jewell

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Casino Location

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:18:33 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

My husband and I would like to voice our objection to a casino being located in the Bow Tie Cinema complex on Arthur Ashe Boulevard. We feel this location would be severely detrimental to the very positive attributes to the city of the neighborhoods of The Fan, The Museum District and Scott's Addition. This type of facility, if it must come to Richmond should be located well outside the city borders and certainly not in close proximity to any city neighborhoods. We feel this proposal would have negative impact in general and strongly oppose. Thank for your attention to our concerns,

Ann Jewell and Steve Farber

Sent from my iPhone

From: Gerry Seeber
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Casino

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:37:23 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I oppose casino at movie land location. This is a historic building. Geraldine Seeber.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Dana DuMont

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>; <u>EconDev</u>

Subject: No Casino in RVA

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:55:48 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To Candice D. Reid, City Clerk and the City of Richmond Economic Development Panel,

As a 35 year resident of Richmond, I am writing to add my voice to those opposed to a casino on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, or in Richmond, for that matter.

Scott's Addition is a thriving neighborhood with residential areas, small-medium businesses, the museum district and sports offerings all adding to the rich community. A casino would be a terrible fit for the area and community as it would degrade the area and surrounding neighborhoods immediately and into the future. We do not need a glitzy, oversized complex that brings in even more traffic that spreads into the region. We need small to medium businesses and enriching cultural organizations to continue to locate here, not businesses and buildings that crowd the skyline and neighborhood, and devalue the community.

Having a casino on Ashe Boulevard would be a scar on the face of our city as well as a lasting detriment. Casinos are wonderful for their developers and owners, but provide low paying jobs for workers. Folks who live in the surrounding neighborhoods do not want casino culture in their lives and they do not want to see their property values drop, or worse, feel the need to move.

As a counter to a casino, I support making affordable spaces for small to medium businesses that develop and create lasting, sustainable, enriching products and experiences, thereby fostering community, tourism, and a vibrant city life. We have this now in in the Ashe/Broad St./Northside area and we wish to keep our diverse, connected region of the city growing without the influx of giant corporate entities. I also support training centers for tradespeople and companies focused on infrastructure needs in a time of rebuilding and re-envisioning US infrastructure and sustainable energy.

I want to continue to tout Richmond as a city of education and research, maker culture, banking and finance, arts and culture, medical excellence, historical study, outdoor and athletic experiences, and unique dining and retail offerings; and I want to add home of robust, sustainable, responsible manufacturing and industry to the list of raves. Kudos on Capitol Trees, RVAGreen2050, and creating the Green Team, by the way! Let's please continue to go high. Let's keep communities strong and lift up all RVA neighborhoods by doing seemingly small things that will make even more people want to make Richmond their home, like locating grocery and other services stores in all neighborhoods and designing public transit to the airport and train terminals.

Thank you for your time, and for taking the comments you receive to heart.

Thank you, too, for sharing my thoughts with the City Counsel at your meeting this week. Dana DuMont

From: Jon Heckel
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: One Casino

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 11:53:12 AM

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Dear City Council,

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It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Carl Estes
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE now.

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:33:08 AM

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From: Conreau Williams
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

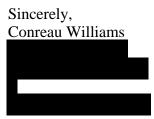
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 12:43:45 PM

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From: Janice McCutchen-Williams

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u> **Subject:** Please choose ONE

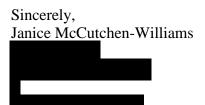
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 12:28:44 PM

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From: Natasha Crawford
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

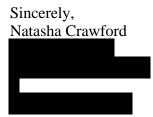
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 12:14:45 PM

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From: Belinda Cosby
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

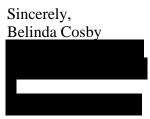
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 12:01:43 PM

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From: Joseph wainwright
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

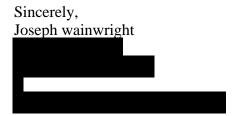
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 11:49:44 AM

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From: Terrie Barnes
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

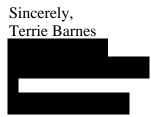
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 11:19:44 AM

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From: Xavier Whitehead
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

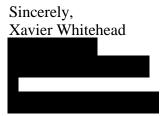
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 11:11:45 AM

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From: myreon pressey
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

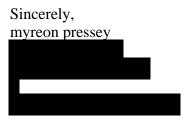
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 11:04:45 AM

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From: Pamela Hall

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Please choose ONE

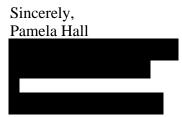
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:58:44 AM

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From: Clarence Reeders
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

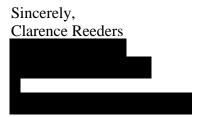
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:53:44 AM

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From: George Maddox
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

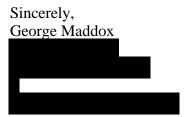
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:44:44 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Lillie Carter
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

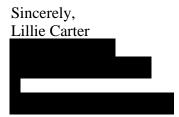
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:43:46 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

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From: Lisa Franklin

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Please choose ONE

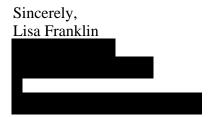
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:33:02 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

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From: Camesha Phillips
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

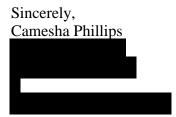
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 6:25:22 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

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From: Mary-Helen Sullivan
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Cc: Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council;

Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Jordan, Katherine - City Council; Larson, Kristen N. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City Council; Trammell, Reva M. - City Council; Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office; EconDev; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mitchell, Valaryee N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza - PDR; Mayor Levar

Stoney

Subject: casino in Richmond

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 3:19:15 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to the proposal to put a casino on the Movieland site, as well as my opposition to any casino in the city.

First and foremost, the city's RFP requires that there be community support for any proposed casino: all of the neighborhood associations that would be affected by the Movieland site have expressed opposition.

Secondly, the city has recently concluded a new master plan, Richmond 300. The Cordish proposal does not accord at all with that plan, is massively out of scale with the rest of the Greater Scotts Addition area, and certainly doesn't complement the VCU Athletic Village, which is being planned. One also wonders what effect the garish lights would have on drivers nearby or perhaps even on drivers on the interstate.

Third, there is something of Peter's robbing Paul: 1. The National Association of Realtors has said that casinos depress neighboring property values; those houses and other buildings are part of the current tax base of the city. 2. The Cordish proposal would take money from current restaurants and entertainment venues-already hit by the pandemic--and that would again depress our tax coffers.

Finally, regarding any casino whatsoever, studies have shown that these enterprises are predatory: they draw in problem gamblers and retirees, often resulting in personal bankruptcies and family disruptions, this while we are still not free of the pandemic and its financial and health effects. Consider also that any casino would probably result in more calls to the police department.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Mary-Helen Sullivan

From: Lynn Turner
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Casino

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 1:11:38 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am opposed to a casino at Movieland on Arthur Ash Boulevard or ANYWHERE in Richmond. Please make my voice heard. I vote NO!!

Lynn Turner



From: Jean Hollings
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Comments on Casino Plans

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 6:42:18 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

There are many reasons to oppose a casino resort at the Bow Tie on Arthur Ashe Blvd. Casinos have been shown to reduce property values and have been associated with higher crime rates. It would be in competition with established local business. It could stymie the organic growth already taking place in the area and change the entire nature of the nearby neighborhoods. Lastly, the local community is simply not supportive of this plan.

But the main reason to oppose this casino and any other casino in Richmond is that they prey on the poor. The economic benefits of a casino would be short term and small, but the harm to society is long term and potentially irreversible.

For these reasons I oppose a resort casino being built at the Bow Tie site and anywhere else in Richmond.

Jean Hollings City Resident From: Kim JonesClark

To: EconDev; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s

Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire; Mitchell, Valaryee N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza - PDR; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mayor Levar Stoney; Jordan, Katherine - City Council; Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council; Larson, Kristen N. - City Council; Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council; Trammell, Reva M. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City

Council; City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Live! Casino on Bow Tie Cinema property

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 4:59:30 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I vehemently oppose placing a casino in the area near Bow Tie Cinemas! It does NOT fit with the area's charm, and would RUIN Richmond's national reputation as the hub for culture, breweries, restaurants, and festivals. Traffic is already going to be horribly congested with the completion of all the new apartment and condo buildings on Broad Street near the Scott's Addition/Arthur Ashe Blvd corridor. This casino monstrosity will make it a monumental, chaotic disaster. In addition, so many of the local businesses struggled to survive during the Covid closure. Now you want to uproot them yet again by adding this small business sucking, economic monopoly. Please don't.

Instead, I implore you to consider the ONE Casino in the location near the Philip Morris headquarters. That area is further away from small businesses and residential neighborhoods, it can be seen from interstate 95, it includes the VERY much needed 55 acre green space, AND is black owned. That is something of which Richmond could be proud!

Thank you!

Kimberly Jones-Clark Artistic Director of Carpenter Science Theatre Company Science Museum of Virginia



From: Scott Taylor

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>; <u>EconDev</u>

Subject: NO Casino Please

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 4:10:04 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Candice D. Reid, City Clerk and City of Richmond Economic Development Panel:

I'm writing to voice my disappointment concerning the potential location for the Cordish Project casino at Bow Tie Cinemas & Redskins Park. I'm a home owner and resident who has lived in the Bellevue area for 30 years. I am also a small business owner operating in the City of Richmond for over 35 years.

I have heard that estimated revenues for a casino at the Bow Tie site are higher than other sites being considered, but at what cost does this harm our community. To plant a sprawling casino complex in Northside Richmond is appalling for the following reasons:

- The area is too small for this complex. An area with more open space for parking, green spaces and generally more area for the development of the complex is more suitable.
- The Bow Tie Cinema location, when in full operation before the Covid pandemic, generated traffic which was problematic during peak movie viewing times a casino would easily multiply this by several times.
- Traffic issues will abound and there is no room to widen or add streets / roadways. Additional traffic congestion is assured.
- The influx of tourists and gaming clientele would add significant population day & night.
- A casino is not a suitable entity given the surrounding historic neighborhoods of the Fan & Museum Districts.
- I'm in favor of businesses and residential spaces in the Redskin Park / Bow Tie Cinema area but small & medium size local businesses producing products and services that everyone could support and the city would still add to the tax base.
- A number of new jobs would be produced but we all know these would be low paying jobs in regard to the profits which would be realized by the developer so I don't see this as a positive for the area.
- What of residential real estate values in the adjacent neighborhoods. Will potential
 homeowners want to purchase homes within a few minutes of a casino complex? I have
 my doubts.

Should this go through and be developed it will be at the cost of dramatically changing the integrity of the Arthur Ashe Boulevard area and the City of Richmond.

Please provide a copy to all members of the Council prior to the beginning of the meeting on Monday night, April 26.

Thank you for your attention.

Regards, E. Scott Taylor From: Judith Brown
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: No CASINO

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 4:16:57 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Candice D. Reid, City Clerk,

Please provide a copy of this opposition email to all members of the Council prior to the beginning of the meeting on Monday night, April 26.

As a resident and voter in Northside Richmond I am hoping that NO Casino will be built at the current Movieland location. Thinking of the residents and many small businesses close by it would be an unwelcome neighbor. The ball park draws people from all over the area to the fun, family friendly games. To add to the traffic congestion would be a nightmare, I drove in that area yesterday so I can attest to this. There are many reasons that this is not a good fit but knowing you are all busy I will conclude with saying, Richmond will be better served with more organically grown businesses like what is in that neighborhood already.

Thank you, Judith Brown, Bellevue Resident From: Sally Chambers
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: No to Casino at the Bow Tie

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 2:21:52 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Candice Reid.

Please share my letter with council members prior to the council meeting on Monday, April 26.

Thank you, Sally Chambers

Dear City Council Members,

We have lived on the Northside of Richmond in Bellevue for 36 years and are opposed to the proposed casino at the Bow Tie Cinemas.

The building of a casino complex on the property of Bow Tie Cinemas in Scott's Addition will create **increased traffic** which the existing roads cannot handle. A 12 minute drive from Bellevue to the Fan will be at least tripled in time because of cars exiting/entering 64 and the casino. For those driving to work or school the challenge will be even exceptionally difficult.

Richmond is a wonderful city that is changing in many positive ways. One of the positive changes has been the organic growth of small successful businesses in the Scott's Addition neighborhood. This growth has added to the unique character of our thriving city. Scott's Addition offers something for everyone. We would like to see the same on the property of the current Bow Tie Cinemas. The revenue generated through taxes will help our city with the expenses to improve our schools and roads. We have seen that this kind of **organic growth works.** Whereas the creation of a 6th Street Marketplace or the Redskins Training Center have not been successful revenue generators for our city. The same may be true of a casino. We are opposed to taking the risky step of building a casino complex that clashes with the character of Scott's Addition and surrounding neighborhoods and has no guarantee of success.

Please consider our opinion that the construction of a casino in Scott's Addition will be a mistake and not contribute to positive growth in Richmond. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Sally and Tom Chambers From: Tonya Washington
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: One

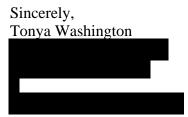
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:01:44 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Cam Beck
To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: Jordan, Katherine - City Council; EconDev; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Addison, Andreas D. - City Council;

Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mayor Levar Stoney; Mitchell, Valaryee N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza -

<u>PDR</u>

Subject: Opposition to Cordish Casino Proposal at Scott"s Addition/ Bow Tie Cinemas

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 1:00:43 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I reside at in the second district. Please note my opposition to the casino proposed at the Bow Tie Cinema land.

The massive project will cause traffic and congestion problems. We have plenty of development already in this area. I also am concerned about the increase in crime that a casino can bring. I am not aware of any neighbors in support of this proposal.

The project is 1 1/2 times the size of Short Pump Center. We do not need this scale of development in this area. I urge the Evaluation Panel and council to reject the Cordish proposal.

Cameron Beck

Richmond, VA 23220

From: Wanda Boone
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

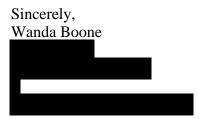
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 6:57:38 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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From: Vivian Holman
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

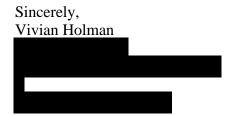
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 4:36:49 PM

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Dear City Council,

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From: Ann Henderson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

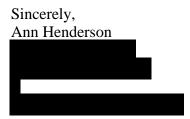
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 4:26:26 PM

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Dear City Council,

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From: Charlene. Eddleton
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

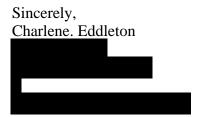
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 3:28:51 PM

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Dear City Council,

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From: Wakeshi Benson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

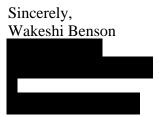
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 3:19:27 PM

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Dear City Council,

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From: Alvin Fowlkes
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

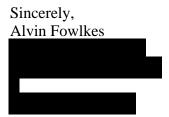
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 2:29:26 PM

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Dear City Council,

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It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Romona Grooms
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

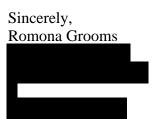
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 2:20:26 PM

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From: Tiffany Dickson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 2:19:22 PM

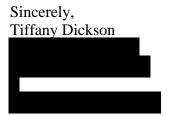
CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

Most importantly, the revenue can pay for the much needed renovations to Richmond public school. It would also pay for programs that RPS doesn't have; Programs that Henrico county has had for years! The people in Richmond that don't want the casino are the people that can afford to send their children to private schools. I have three young girls and there is currently no middle school or high school good enough to send them to. I cannot afford nor do I want to send my children to private school. I want to support RPS, but we need Richmond's council members to support us by choosing ONE Casino!

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Jahmal Harris
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

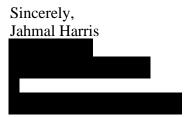
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 12:45:09 PM

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Dear City Council,

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From: Lori Sneed
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Richmond casino

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 12:56:00 PM

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To whom it may concern at the city clerk's office

From Lori Sneed Richmond citizen

Good afternoon, I'm sending this email to voice my opinion about the casino coming to Richmond Virginia and its location. And I believe that the radio one site and bid is the best predominantly because of the location and the fact that it's proximity to the waterfront may spark interest in development further in that area to bring even more revenue to the state and the City.

Thank you for your time Lori D.Sneed

From: Thomas Edward Anderson

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Casino

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:48:49 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I want One.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Katrina Solomon
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Casino One & Resort

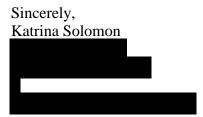
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:07:06 PM

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Dear City Council,

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From: Rosetta Hicks
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: I strongly support having the One casino here please it will be so awesome

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:10:43 PM

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Dear City Council,

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From: Morris Stith

To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Please choose ONE

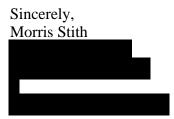
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:18:31 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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From: Deborah Richards
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

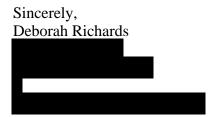
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:18:30 PM

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Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Robert White
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

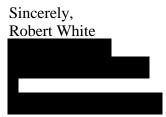
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:05:49 PM

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From: Ronnie hunt
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

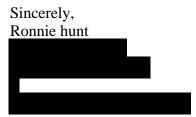
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:03:25 PM

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From: Regina Randolph
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

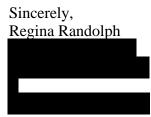
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:50:48 PM

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From: Akhenaton Blye
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

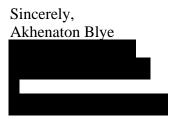
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:44:49 PM

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From: Angela Ingram
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

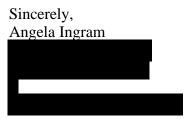
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:39:50 PM

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From: Ronson Giggetts
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

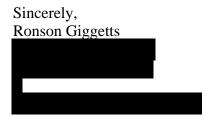
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:35:49 PM

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From: Vanessa Clark
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

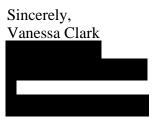
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:33:18 PM

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From: Kyle Jones
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

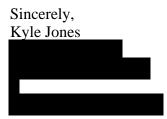
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:30:49 PM

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From: Shyteia Carter
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

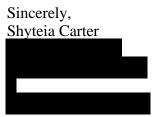
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:18:13 PM

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From: Grace Washington
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

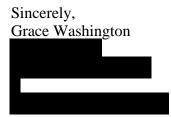
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:06:44 PM

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From: Mary Woodley
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

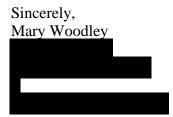
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:03:44 PM

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From: To:

City Clerk"s Office;

Cc:

Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council; Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council; Trammell, Reva M. - City Council; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City Council; Jordan, Katherine - City Council; Larson, Kristen N. - City Council; EconDev; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert.

Sharon L. - DED

Subject: Date: Stop Casino at the Movieland site Saturday, April 24, 2021 7:10:44 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good morning Candice D. Reid,

I am opposed to the casino proposal at the Movieland site.

STATE DELEGATE

Jeffrey M. Bourne I live in District: 71

Thank you for not allowing this.

Tim

From: Shaddai Hayes
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: support ONE casino

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:03:25 PM

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From: Estelle Otey
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Casino one

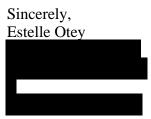
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:05:14 PM

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From: DeTrease Harrison
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: One Casini Resirt

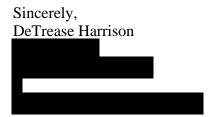
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:17:36 PM

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From: Marsha Landess
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:27:26 PM

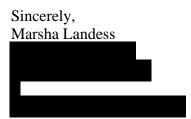
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Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond. As a long time Richmond resident I value the amount of effort that ONE has invested to really look at what will make a difference in our Community. Making this very much about what will benefit our community and increased opportunities for the citizens of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.

As you make a final selection on a casino operator in the coming weeks, I sincerely urge you to choose ONE! This is undoubtably the clear choice that will benefit our community the most.



From: Joyce Rahman
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

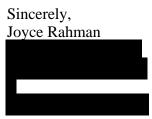
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:21:36 PM

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From: DeBorah Robinson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

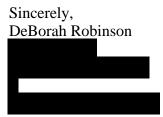
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:18:37 PM

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From: Mary Woodley
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

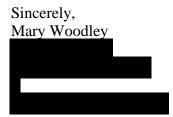
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:17:40 PM

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From: Gwenevere Taylor
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

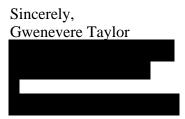
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:17:38 PM

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From: LaMisha Johnson
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

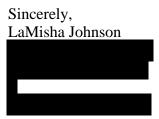
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:17:37 PM

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From: Michael White
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

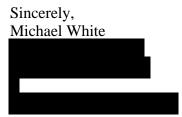
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From: De"Neal Gilliam
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

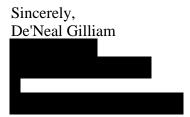
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From: Erica Dickerson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

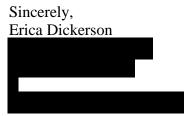
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:10:35 PM

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From: Nick royall

To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Please choose ONE

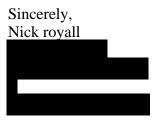
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:10:17 PM

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From: Regina Johnson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

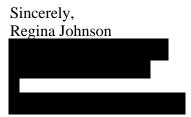
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:39:38 PM

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From: Mary Gresham
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

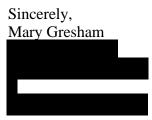
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:24:58 PM

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From: Renee Nichols
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

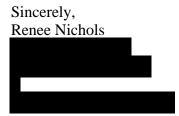
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:10:16 PM

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From: Vickie Ferguson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

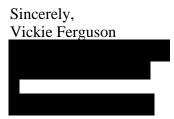
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:09:50 PM

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From: Janet Lucas

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Please choose ONE

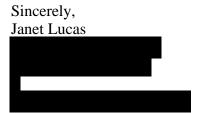
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:09:49 PM

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From: barbara Whitake
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

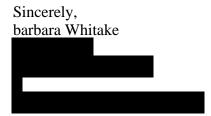
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:09:49 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Stanley shakespear
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

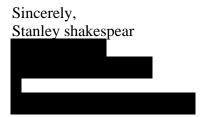
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 8:24:50 PM

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From: Carolyn Hobbs-Farrar
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose OnE

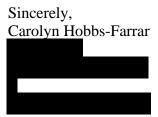
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 10:17:36 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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From: Nikisha Bratten
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Building a Better Opportunity for Richmond-Cities.

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 1:47:42 PM

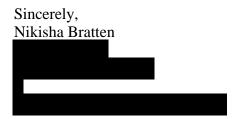
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From: Rae Berryman

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Candice D. Reid, City Clerk. Ask that they be included in the record of the April 26th City Council Meeting

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 6:10:52 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Radio One/Urban One has always been a pivotal part of the Black Community here in Richmond. Even during the heaviest part of the pandemic last year they were still a resource for the community. Providing uplifting music and conversation, giving out masks and cleaning supplies, doing drive thru giveaways for back to school supplies in August and Toys and Baby items during the holidays. They also held over 40 virtual events and info sessions curated with the Black community in mind such as a Mayoral Forum, conversations around the history of systemic racism and a virtual women's empowerment series called HERSTORY RVA. I am confident that this casino will only increase their impact on the community at large.

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Curtis Manley
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: I support One Casino

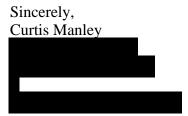
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 12:26:30 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

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From: Joseph Seipel
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: No Casino

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 11:09:49 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

My wife and I are adamantly opposed to the Cordish Casino proposal on the Movieland property. We see no benefit for the neighborhood or the wonderful organic growth of the nearby Scott's Addition area. The gambling casino would stand next to VCU's planned Athletic Village. A gambling casino next to a college sports venue is not a good look. It is also oversized for the area, with 18 restaurants potentially eroding customers from our local businesses and clogging streets with excess traffic.

This is out of character for our neighborhood. It does nothing to enhance or make this community a better and more enticing place to raise a family or enhance the environment.

We emphatically say no to the Cordish Casino proposal.

Regards,

Joe and Suzanne Seipel

From: Latasha Johnson
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: ONE Casino

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 12:18:50 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

I believe that having the ONE casino hear in Richmond is a great move for the city. Not only does it bring jobs to the community but it will bring tourist dollars to our city.

I want ONE!

--

Thank you!

Latasha W. Johnson

From: Ed Scher
To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council; Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council

Office; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council; Trammell, Reva M. - City Council; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City Council; Jordan, Katherine - City Council; Larson, Kristen N. - City Council; Mayor Levar Stoney; EconDev; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mitchell, Valaryee N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza -

PDR

Subject: Opposition to Cornish proposal to build casino at the Movieland site

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:32:43 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Clerk:

I am a resident of the Second District. I have lived and worked in the City for over 35 years.

I write to state my strong opposition to the Cornish proposal.

The proposed development will create no benefit to area residents and local businesses.

The proposed development will wreck the existing community ecology of residences and local businesses.

The proposed development <u>is guaranteed</u> to damage the quality of life for nearby neighborhoods and local businesses.

The proposed development is <u>not guaranteed</u> to benefit the City, either in the short or long term.

If there is a <u>net</u> benefit to the City (considering the foreseeable, unforeseeable, and hidden costs of the development), that net benefit is vague and impossible to calculate.

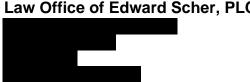
It seems utterly foolish to approve this project.

I do not know enough to comment on the proposal for a casino in the Eighth District. It is my opinion, however, that it should not even be considered unless it is supported by a very strong majority of fully informed residents affected by the project.

My understanding is that private consultants suggested a downtown location for the casino. I am not fully informed of that suggestion and its implications, but my initial reaction is that it makes more sense to locate a casino in the area where we seek to provide convention and related entertainment facilities -- if the decision is made that a casino is beneficial for the City.

Thank you for considering my views.

Ed Scher Law Office of Edward Scher, PLC



This message contains confidential information that is intended only for the use of the addressees named above and may contain information that is privileged, attorney work product, or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not an intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination or copying of the information contained in this message, or the taking of any action in reliance upon the information, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete the message from your system without reading it. Thank you.

From: Leon Banks
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

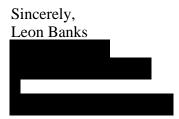
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 2:04:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Valerie Thomas
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

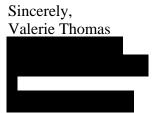
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 1:55:39 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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From: Warlisha Whisonant
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

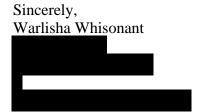
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 1:34:41 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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From: Sheila Bullock
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

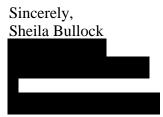
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 1:29:39 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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From: Jamiel Cotman

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Please choose ONE

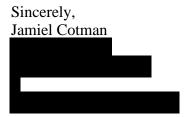
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 1:22:41 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

While there are many reasons, such as the the more than 1,500 jobs, over \$400,000,000 in tax revenue, and family friendly environment, the greatest reason I want you to choose the 'One Resort & Casino' project is because it would make Richmond, Va go down in history as home to the worlds only black owned casino! This shakes much of the stigma we have as being the capital of the confederacy, and rebrands us as a hallmark for black generational success instead.

What an improvement!



From: JONATHAN MOORE
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

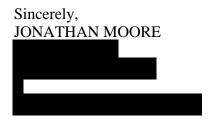
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 1:20:40 PM

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Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond. This Casino will represent the greater demographic of revenue stream that has be in-fluxed into the state of Virginia as a whole!

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond. My wife and I both live in South Chesterfield and we frequent MGM National Harbor. I would love to spend my hard earned money in Richmond!



From: Brenda Stucky
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

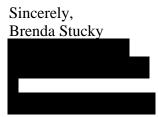
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:18:21 AM

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From: Cynthia Robinson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

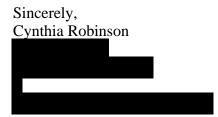
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 6:25:32 AM

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From: Andrew Maisonet
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

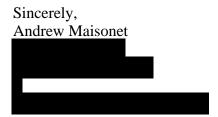
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:22:42 AM

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From: Robert Tansey
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

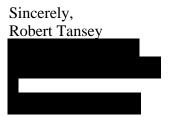
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:11:22 AM

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From: Earl Sibley
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

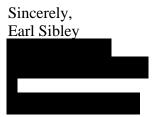
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:09:55 AM

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From: Marquita Wilson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

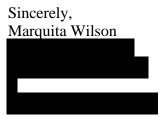
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 12:37:24 AM

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From: Joanne Jones
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

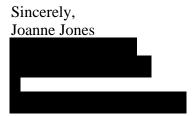
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 11:04:31 PM

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From: Morris Stith
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

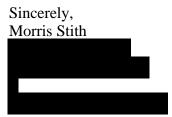
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 11:02:25 PM

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From: Jennifer Sibley
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

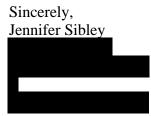
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 11:02:25 PM

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From: Felicia Joyner
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

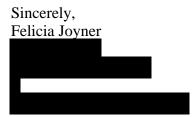
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021 11:02:24 PM

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From: To:

City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Re: ONE Casino + Resort - Richmond VA Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 9:12:15 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

All,

I support ONE Casino Resort - it's the best location and proposal for Richmond! - AND

Please include this email in the record of the April 26th City Council Meeting showing my support of the City of Richmond selecting the **ONE Casino Resort**!

Teri M Jones

Subject: [spam] Opposition to Cordish proposal @ Bow Tie Movieland

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:13:30 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Respectfully submitted by Randee P. Humphrey

The Cordish proposal fails to achieve a "level of community support for proposed development and location/site" or demonstrate "economic development value of the proposed Casino and potential for community reinvestment and redevelopment in an area in need of such (e.g., potential to act as a catalyst for additional economic development in the area; level of need for such a catalyst in the corresponding area)" The Cordish proposal and its location is opposed by a majority of the local community living and working within a 2-mile radius of the site. Residents have expressed grave concerns over the impact of this development on traffic and congestion, as well as its potential limited positive impact on nearby locally-owned businesses. The proposal fails to demonstrate a real knowledge of and commitment to the inclusion of local businesses in its business plan, and shows a complete disregard for real traffic impacts from Interstate 95/Exit 78 and along Arthur Ashe Boulevard/Hermitage and West Leigh Street corridors. The nearby residential neighborhoods distrusts the Cordish Companies avowed commitment to local community benefits; the adage "a rising tide lifts all boats" does not apply in the case of casinos, which are designed as self-contained, all-purpose destinations that extract, rather than build, local wealth. With decades of evidence of local private investment in residential housing and small businesses, the Greater Scott's Addition/Boulevard neighborhood does not need a casino as a catalyst for further development.

From: Daya Bill Johnson
To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc:

Subject: casino opposition to share before council meeting

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:02:54 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am a homeowner in Laburnum Park. I am opposed to a casino because it does not align with the city's Master Plan.

Daya Johnson

From:
City Clark's

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Casino Project on Arthur Ashe Boulevard Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:43:43 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Clerk Reid,

Can you please provide a copy of our letter below to all City Council members before tomorrow's meeting at 6 PM?

Much thanks,

Philise Conein Richmond, VA

April 25, 2021

Candice D. Reid, City Clerk Richmond City Council

Attn: All Richmond City Council Members

To Council Members and Citizens of Richmond, Virginia:

We are opposed to the proposal for a Casino to be built on the current BowTie Cinema properties. It will irreparably damage the character of Historic Scott's Addition (HSA), as well as siphon away revenue from local entrepreneurial businesses now thriving there. Recognized in 2005 with a historic district designation, HSA has grown to include over 13 breweries, cideries, meaderies, and distilleries, and is also home to nationally-recognized restaurants, rooftop bars, a boutique bowling alley, cinema, shuffleboard bar, retail shops, and more.

Casinos are designed to keep their patrons inside the Casino. They provide cheap food and drink to do so. This will damage revenues to the small entrepreneurial businesses that are thriving in Scott's Addition, crafting and offering an interesting variety of food and drink options.

The majority of casino profits are made not through entertainment or card games, but through the slot machines that are engineered to trigger addictive behavior. Around 85% of regional casino profits are from slots. Casinos create low-skill, low wage jobs, and the job

security of the Casino worker is tied directly to the casino's ability to generate money, usually with diminishing returns over time. This is not what Richmond needs.

In addition, the extra traffic that will be generated on Arthur Ashe Boulevard will be a nightmare, on a thoroughfare that is already quite busy.

While we are not in support of either remaining Casino option, the proposed development of the "ONE Casino and Resort" located 2001 Walmsley Boulevard, Richmond is more logical. There are mostly fast-food chain type restaurants near this location, few bars or pubs, and very few hotels. The location is easily accessible from I-95.

We implore the Council to look hard at the two remaining options before making a final selection.

Sincerely,

Philise and Phil Conein Bellevue, Richmond, VA From:
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Casino proposal

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:48:21 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am writing to voice my concern of the casino proposal for Scott's Addition And all other locations!

I do not understand why this proposal continues to be considered when you all know that almost every local neighborhood association has voiced their opposition to the casinos being built! We thought our concerns were part of this debate, but you are making it seem our opinions not matter.

The small businesses in that area are still trying to survive the pandemic yet you want to place a ginormous one stop shop casino with food options, gambling, shopping, entertainment and drinking to have all the money spending in one spot. Our small businesses will fail to compete in that. All the growth we have seen will cease and will not make this the unique, family oriented, neighborhood that we all moved here to be a part of.

You have made these proposals a secret for too long. You did this in order for you to pit our neighborhoods against each other (southside etc) so that we would not all stand together to say that no one besides people who benefit from the profits wants this monstrosity in our little city!

Casinos only take advantage and the house will always win...

Candace Johnson

Sent from my iPhone

From: Daisey Sanders
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject:Cordish Movieland Casino ProposalDate:Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:09:41 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am really aging the Casino on Arthur Ash boulevard..Daisey sanders . Seminary avenue, Richmond, va

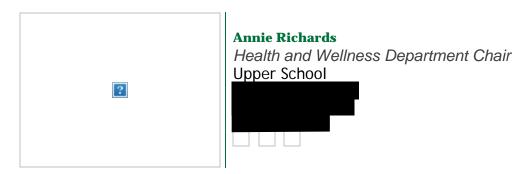
From: Richards, Annie
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: no to casino

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:39:09 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Reid, We are strongly opposed to the Casino at Bow Tie Cinemas. Thank you, Annie Richards

--



This email from Collegiate School may contain confidential or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, please advise by return email and delete immediately without reading or forwarding to others.

Subject: Opposition to Cordish Live! resort casino at 1301 N. Arthur Ashe Blvd.

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:19:33 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Respectfully submitted by Randee P. Humphrey

The Cordish proposal fails to achieve "compatibility with land use principles"
The Live! casino does not "enhance the public realm and create a sense of place," nor does it fulfill the City's land use prescription and primary uses in a transit-oriented development for "retail/office/personal services, multi-family residential, cultural, and open space." In fact, to its eastern boundary, the Live! development would be adjacent to the Southern Park described in the Richmond 300 master plan as a "public space with sports fields and active-use areas for youth with integrated green infrastructure that supports water quality." Casinos by their very adult nature are not family-friendly destinations, and the Cordish plan is not the least bit convincing in its portrayal as a wholesome, synergistic addition to the fabric of midtown RVA. In stark contrast, VCU is pursuing expansion of its Athletic Village, in collaboration with professional baseball and in concert with the stated land use goals of Richmond 300.

Subject: Opposition to Cordish Live! resort casino proposal

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:22:14 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Respectfully submitted by Randee P. Humphrey

Absent from the Cordish proposal is any compelling "plan to mitigate any potential adverse effects on the neighborhood and community that may be caused by a Casino (generally (e.g., problem gaming initiatives) and traffic and parking mitigation plans" First of all, any proposed urban development that must include mitigation plans to offset the adverse negative impacts of such development makes no logical sense. Why would the City even engage in a process that begins by addressing the downsides of a potential development? The serious adverse traffic and congestion impacts on the nearby residential communities are hardly inconsequential or easily addressed with parking garages and weak arguments of "counter-cyclical uses." And the potential social impacts resulting from problem gaming behaviors have been well-documented and cannot be "mitigated" by self-exclusion programs or employee training to help "identify clientele at risk of problem gaming."

I want to make clear that I am opposed to a casino in any location where the nearby neighborhoods object to its development. For Richmond's Northside, where I've resided since 1984, the Cordish proposal is just another example of the City chasing after a short-term gain of promised revenue at the expense of its own residents and the longer term viability of neighborhoods and local businesses. While I understand the City's need for additional revenue sources, I have to wonder why we are not more creative in finding multiple solutions that have a cumulative positive impact on the health and prosperity of all Richmonders.

Subject: Opposition to Cordish Proposal @ Bow Tie Movieland

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:16:08 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Respectfully submitted by Randee P. Humphrey

As a Richmond resident for 37 years, I am writing to express my adamant opposition to the 1.9 million square foot resort casino proposal by The Cordish Companies on the 17-acre site currently occupied by the Bow Tie Cinemas at Arthur Ashe Boulevard and West Leigh Street. Using the panel's evaluation criteria, I feel strongly that the project fails to meet basic and critical qualifications.

The proposal fails to show "design creativity and quality of development" and does not demonstrate that it "compliment(s) or is compatible with the neighborhood and Richmond's culture and existing businesses"

The Live! casino proposal is inarguably out of touch with the surrounding sense of place that has evolved through the organic, locally-driven, and decades-long devoted vision, energy, and investment of merchants, residents, and entrepreneurs of Greater Scott's Addition. The Cordish plan of development shows no respect for historical context or the local character and culture of the surrounding neighborhood and is over-scaled for the limitations of its geographically bound 17-acre parcel. This is not your "little casino around the corner," but a gargantuan, densely planned monstrosity towering over Arthur Ashe Boulevard, completely out of context with the "complete streets" and scenic "garden city" character described in the adopted Richmond 300 master plan.

From: Ashante Thompson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

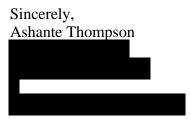
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:49:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: charles page
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

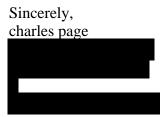
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:29:40 PM

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Dear City Council,

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From: William Hewlett
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

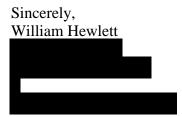
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:35:41 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

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From: Sandrs Shaw
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

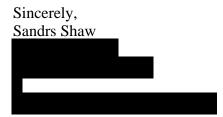
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:32:41 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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From: Sharon Harper
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:26:36 PM

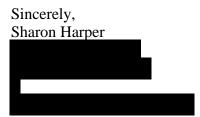
CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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As you make a final selection on a casino operator in the coming weeks, I sincerely urge you to choose ONE! This will help build our city as well as the community. We need jobs here in Richmond.



From: BRENDA HAWKINS
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

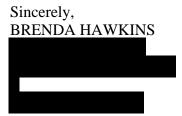
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:19:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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From: charles page
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

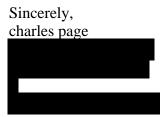
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:04:40 PM

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Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

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From: Tanya Galy
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

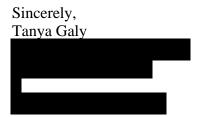
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 2:51:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: BIANCA LOCKLEY
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 2:37:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

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From: Wyvette Johnson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

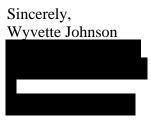
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 2:14:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Jacqueline Greene
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Urban OnePlease choose ONE

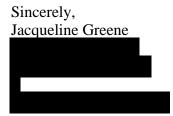
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 2:25:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Kayla Xavier
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: NO Casino

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:07:31 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

This is an idiotic, avaricious proposal to build a casino on the Bow Tie property on Arthur Ashe (Boulevard). A "resort casino" on this site would be a Godzilla to the Bambi of our neighborhood, which is currently a human-sized site of historic homes and small locally-owned businesses of all kind.

A huge casino at this site is in direct conflict with the recently approved Richmond 300 Master Plan. In addition to the tremendous traffic issues a large casino at Movieland would create, it would take business from the wonderful local restaurants and breweries in Scott's Addition.

We are residents, homeowners and business owners who live around the proposed Live! by Cordish casino resort on Arthur Ashe Boulevard. We believe the site is inconsistent with the type of Richmond we want to be known for. We are proud of our world class food and beer scene, the James River, and our rich architectural landscape. For that reason, we OPPOSE a casino on Arthur Ashe Boulevard

Regards,

Kayla Xavier, LMT Owner RAD Glow



From: Theron Fluker

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office; EconDev; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Saunders,</u>

Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mayor Levar Stoney; Mitchell, Valaryee N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza - PDR; Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council; Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council; Trammell, Reva M. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City Council; Jordan, Katherine - City Council; Larson,

Kristen N. - City Council

Subject: Casino at Bowtie

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:06:12 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Hello,
I am a Northside resident. I live at casino at Bowtie.

Please see below for additional discussion of the reasons why I am opposed:

• Property values of neighborhoods adjacent to casinos decline, as seen in other cities: casinos do not enrich communities over time. According to the National Association of Realtors.

"The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is unambiguously negative."

- The Cordish proposal is for a self-contained, one-stop gambling, entertainment, and dining complex with 18 restaurants designed to capture every dollar from visitors. It will cannibalize the fragile local restaurant ecosystem and our entertainment venues, all trying to recover after the COVID quarantines.
- The Cordish proposal calls for a huge, out of scale complex on the Bow Tie. At 1.9 million square feet, this project will be 1.5 times the size of Town Center at Short Pump. The impacts on existing neighborhoods, and on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Leigh Street, and I-95 are unknown and, frankly, unimaginable.
- The Cordish proposal calls for a 3,500-space structured parking garage. This is not "community-based economic development." This is scaled for a regional mall.
- The Cordish proposal conflicts with massive Northside development already in process.

It is not coordinated with the proposed VCU Athletic Village, the additional densities in Scott's

Addition, or the City-owned properties around the Baseball Stadium, or with the broader scale and vitality of our city.

• The RFP issued by the city stipulated that any casino proposal must have community support. The Cordish proposal at the Bowtie site fails to meet this simple requirement. Citizens

are overwhelmingly opposed, and multiple neighborhood associations have formally stated

their

opposition to the project while none support it.

- The City has known about the prospect of a casino for over a year, yet chose to omit it from the recent update of the Richmond 300 Master Plan. All three sites violate the recently adopted Master Plan Goals for Equitable Transportation and a Diverse Economy.
- Instead of spending the last year to identify and plan for a site that might work for all, the City has chosen a process that pits neighborhood against neighborhood, with an opaque

process to bypass public input on siting decisions, consideration of traffic, environment, small business enrichment, and crime prevention. Instead, all critical issues were outsourced to g interests based outside our Central Virginia region.

•Convergence Strategy Group picked the downtown as the best choice. It would have replaced the

Richmond Coliseum blight and provided an anchor for future development. Why was it not included among the initial six proposals?

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Regards,

T.R. Fluker

From: drowe1624

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Casino Proposal

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 5:34:54 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I am writing to ask you to vote no to any casinos in Richmond City when the ordinances/resolutions are presented to Council. Bringing exploitative, sexist, misogynist, industries to the City is not creative, progressive, or visionary.

We have a vibrant city with a river that boasts level 3/4 rapids and flatwater, diverse architecture, and a rich history that hasn't been told. Explore econ Dev through these. New revenue streams can also be created by taxing religious organizations, raising the corp tax rate, which is very low for our wealthy state, and creating a commercial transaction tax. Wealthy Richmonders (200,000/yr) could also be taxed higher.

Don't sell our City to industry grifters, not from here, not invested in us, that just want to exploit our communities.

We deserve better!

City Council has the power to say No. Please respect our communities.

Deborah Rowe 3rd D RPS Graduate VCU Alum

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: P Ellsworth
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Casino

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:45:55 PM

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Paulette

From: Cackie Trippe McCarty
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Casinos in Richmond - Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:52:18 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I am a resident of 46 years in the City of Richmond, a property owner, and I would like to put forth my firm opposition to any casino resort plan for this City, our home.

It seems to me that this is an instance of where we need to stop and think about **what we want the character** of our city to be. I seriously do not believe that the majority of our citizens wish Richmond to be defined by a slick, massive casino resort and the ensuing negative impacts that will follow for years, if not generations, to come.

I can foresee no positive impacts whatsoever from this plan. The recently updated Richmond 300 Master Plan would be violated by any of the casino proposals. Why does our City government want this so badly? The proposed revenue stream that is being touted is something I believe to be highly risky. Surely, we can find other ways to subsidize the financial needs of Richmond.

I am particularly concerned about the Cordish proposal for the Bowtie site. Not only is this enormous 1.9 million foot campus closely bordered by numerous historic neighborhoods (most, if not all of whom OPPOSE this project and NONE are in support of it)), there would be an unimaginable traffic issue on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Leigh St, and I-95 to contend with. It is well known that the property values of neighborhoods near casinos decline. According to the National Association of Realtors, "The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is unambiguously negative."

I also cannot believe we are asked to be so naive as to think that neighboring small businesses and restaurants will benefit from casino patrons. The brief is for a full campus, including 18 restaurants, and a hotel. As someone who has visited casino resorts in the western US, I can attest that the vast majority of patrons never live the resort campus. I believe, and you can find plenty of evidentiary writings, that a casino resort will only serve to force our already fragile small businesses to either leave the City for neighboring counties or be forced to shutter. This after all the resources that have been invested in Scott's Addition, the Fan, Museum District, etc by the City. It seems contradictory. Combine the fact that the casino patrons will not be visiting them with the fact that locals will not want to deal with the increased traffic glut in the area and that is a recipe for disaster.

The eagerness for the City's administration to roll out the red carpet for big money developers vs the concerns of its citizens has never been more apparent that it is at this moment. As a resident of Ginter Park, we have felt the sting of this in our own neighborhood. Our City government has ended up pitting neighborhoods against neighborhoods with the opaque process it has employed in this casino process.

Furthermore, I am concerned about the future. Suppose the resort is built and then fails. What are

we citizens left with? As bad as it would be for that to happen anywhere in our City, to have a huge empty, 1.9 million square foot ghost town on Arthur Ashe Boulevard would be an unimaginable nightmare. Let's not forget the failure of the Sixth Street marketplace. That is child's play compared to a project this size.

Let's also not forget the fact that casinos are know to prey on those citizens who can least afford it. I fear for our most vulnerable population should this come to fruition. In addition, there is the certain rise of crime (and more gun violence), drugs, prostitution, loan sharking, and organized crime plus additional drain on the police force.

I respectfully ask you to please consider ALL the citizens of Richmond and again think about what we want the character of our great city to have now and in the future. Do we really want to be known as a gambling town when we have so much more to offer?

Thank you for your time.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Trippe McCarty

From: Jim Smith
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Casinos

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 6:48:47 PM

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the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am a resident and home owner in Richmond, Virginia since 1987 and I hereby submit my thoughts on bringing a gambling casino to Richmond, our fair and historic city. I have been reading and listening to both sides of this proposal and have decided that a casino *anywhere* in the city would a detriment to the well-being of the neighborhoods and to the people who choose to gamble in them. The following is from a Richmond Times Dispatch editorial from Saturday, April 24, 2021. Michael Schewel, retired **Virginia Secretary of Commerce and Trade** 2002-2006. Mr. Schewel writes: "State-sponsored gambling, in general, involves a transfer of money from poor people to more affluent people, as state and local revenue generation shifts from progressive taxes to regressive gambling tariffs. In addition, as described by *gambling expert* (my emphasis) Thomas Baber of the University of Connecticut School of Medicine: 'Gambling problems tend to be concentrated, though not exclusively, in the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, included ethnic minorities, the homeless, the unemployed, the mentally ill, alcohol and drug users, and those who have lower incomes and socioeconomic statutes. Gambling as a solution to social revenue needs faces the risk of turning poverty into misery, even for many who do not themselves gamble at all.'

Mr. Schewel and Mr. Baber's statements are insightful and thought provoking. Why would Richmond, our beautiful welcoming City on the James, want to be known as a city that causes the destruction of the underprivileged and disadvantaged merely for the sake of money?

I ask that you vote NO on a gambling casino in Richmond, Virginia.

James R. Smith Bellevue resident Richmond, Virginia From: Douglas Riva

To: City Clerk"s Office: ; Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council

Subject: Comments Opposing the Casino at Bow Tie Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 5:41:33 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We reside at Ginter Place Condos at Scott's Addition. We, like a large majority of our neighbors, are deeply troubled by and adamantly opposed to the proposal for a casino development at the site of the present historic Bow Tie cinema property.

The Cordish proposal calls for a huge, out of scale complex on the Bow Tie site. At 1.9 million square feet, this project will be 1.5 times the size of Town Center at Short Pump. The impacts on existing neighborhoods, and on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Leigh Street, I-95, and notably the Broad Street corridor leading in and out of downtown Richmond and the Museum District are likely to be devastating.

Property values of neighborhoods adjacent to casinos decline, as seen in other cities: casinos do not enrich communities over time. According to the National Association of Realtors, "The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is unambiguously negative."

We respectfully urge the City Council to reject this proposal.

Very truly yours,

James Douglas RIVA Karen Ellen RILEY From: Jonathan Murdoch-Kitt

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office; Jeffrey M. Bourne; GPRA President--MEG LAWRENCE</u>

Cc: Norma Murdoch-Kitt
Subject: Fwd: Casino in Richmond

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:47:20 PM

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the sender's address and know the content is safe.

----- Forwarded message ----

From: **Jonathan Murdoch-Kitt**Date: Sun, Apr 25, 2021, 7:42 PM
Subject: Casino in Richmond

To:

Dear Councilwoman Lambert,

I oppose all Casino proposals for Richmond. I am your constituent. Please vote no on any Casino for Richmond. There are no redeeming qualities about Casinos for Richmond.

Yours truly,

Jonathan Murdoch-Kitt

From: Sue Houdyshell
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Fwd: Info regarding making city Council remarks

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:18:17 PM
Attachments: Meeting Participation Instructions.pdf

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

My name is Sue Houdyshell and I live at writing in response

I am

to the proposed building of a casino on the Movieland Property near Boulevard. I am opposed to this project for numerous

reasons. Boulevard is a busily traveled, sometimes congested area due to events at the diamond, interstate roads converging with the Boulevard and multiple businesses, residents, and a quickly expanding Scott's Edition which is already densely populated with parking at a premium. I, as well as a growing number of people are fans of the Movieland theater which provides quality films for families and art film lovers which is great for the residential communities from the North, the VCU population and the Fan. There are no other movie theaters to serve this area. The other theaters require a lot of driving and don't offer the variety/quality of shows. It is the kind of recreation this area needs. I see no value in placing a casino in an area which is near residential areas and the downtown business area. This large tract of land, if portions of it were to be sold by Movieland could be put to better use for the good of the city, the environment and the people who live here. I suggest something that pertains to strengthening /addressing the educational needs of Richmond or bike paths or other environmentally conscious programs.

A casino should be placed, if at all, in an area further out from the city where it would not disrupt the neighborhoods already present. It should be in a space large enough to be a destination area for those who have gambling as their primary objective. Richmond should be focusing on bringing back struggling restaurants and businesses that give worth to our community. I imagine there are revenues to come from a casino, but that can be found through other enterprises in other vacinities, but, please, not near the Boulevard. Thank you,

Sue Houdyshell



From: Margaret Austin
To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: Date:

Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:57:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To: Members of Council

From: Margaret Austin

I write to tell you of my opposition to any casino project in Richmond. I do support bringing the questions to the citizens as a referendum vote at the November '21 elections.

I strongly oppose the Bow Tie property as a possible site. My opposition mirrors that of others who oppose this site and that are spread over many platforms: Too big. Too much traffic. Is this something Richmond citizens have asked for? In the long list of issues that the city needs to address, does this help?

From: Trish Poupore
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: My comments against Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:14:46 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

My thoughts against building casinos in Richmond:

As a resident of Ginter Park for nearly 30 years with two twenty something sons living in the area, I am greatly opposed to having casinos in Richmond, especially in our greater neighborhood.

I worked the criminal justice field for 10 years, doing some research and writing along the way on the topic of gambling and casinos for the National Institute of Justice. While revenue for the City might be great, we'd be opening up a can of worms, encouraging vice, gambling, organized crime, prostitution, larceny and gaming addiction at a tremendous cost to Richmond families.

There are many, many articles and a lot of research verifying this. Here's one: When It's No longer a Game—Pathological Gambling in the United States.

Another can be found here:

Casinos would also change the character of the Scott's Addition area, which was just starting to attract high end restaurants, breweries and nice living spaces attracting young professional people and art and music to the area.

Offering casinos in this area would not attract the crowd that would strengthen and enhance our city... the theatre, music venue and museum goers and those who enjoy our beautiful parks and recreation. Casinos would pull down the reputation of our City, not to mention adding to traffic and parking woes in this area.

They are not entities that enhance the type of tourism we want or make Richmond a healthy and vibrant place for families.

Richmond will once again soon be a sought after destination for art, dining, recreation and history once we are beyond COVID.

We don't need to take this short, quick route to bring in dollars with casinos, but should invest in the long term future of a safe and healthy community.

Trish Poupore

From: E Woodaman

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Cc: Jordan, Katherine - City Council; Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council; Lynch,

Stephanie A. - City Council Office; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council; Trammell, Reva M. - City Council; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City Council; Larson, Kristen N. - City Council; EconDev; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mayor Levar Stoney; Mitchell, Valaryee N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza -

PDR

Subject: No Casino at Bowtie!

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 5:28:35 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

As residents of more than twenty years on West Grace Street, we have enjoyed watching Broad Street, Arthur Ashe Boulevard, and the area in general once again blossom with successful local businesses that attract out of towners, as well as new homeowners.

A casino at Arthur Ashe and West Leigh would be a disaster for our local businesses. The infrastructure cannot accommodate the amount of traffic millions of annual visitors would produce. The heart of our neighborhoods north and south of West Broad Street would no longer serve its citizenry, but instead would be a shining example of an unethical city putting outsiders and easy money above its own constituents.

During a year of social reckoning when Richmond is looking at its past- especially the sacrifice of thousands of residents and dozens of businesses in Jackson Ward, Randolph and Oregon Hill neighborhoods for the sake of highways- it is outrageous that this casino could potentially require the razing of dozens of homes to accommodate a new 95 ramp on Northside.

Our Council and City government need to look out for its constituents and place a casino in an area where it is desired. We don't know one person in the Fan, Museum District or Northside that is for this proposed casino at Arthur Ashe Boulevard and West Leigh.

Please make the ethical vote against a casino at the Bowtie! Thank you, Elsa Woodaman and Chris Cox West Grace Street From: Breanna Jones

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: One Casino Resort

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:46:58 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To: Candice D Reid, City Clerk;

I support ONE Casino Resort - it's the best location and proposal for Richmond! - AND

Please include this email in the record of the April 26th City Council Meeting showing my support of the City of Richmond selecting the **ONE Casino Resort** Breanna Jones Henrico VA

From: Janine Boyd
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: One casino resort

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:50:09 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To: Candice D Reid, City Clerk;

I support ONE Casino Resort - it's the best location and proposal for Richmond! - AND

Please include this email in the record of the April 26^{th} City Council Meeting showing my support of the City of Richmond selecting the **ONE Casino Resort**

Janine Boyd Richmond, VA From: Cassandra Byrd
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

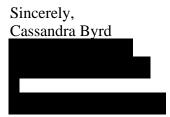
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:02:35 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Cassandra Byrd
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

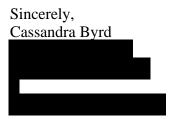
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:39:35 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

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From: JaQuez Knight
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

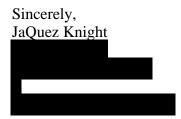
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:38:41 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Cassandra Byrd
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

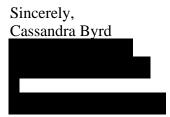
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:26:08 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Candice Hardy
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

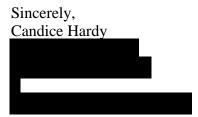
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:10:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Latrice Jackson
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

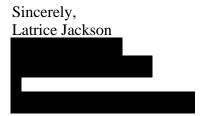
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 6:44:41 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Remar Robinson
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Please choose ONE; I want ONE!!

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 6:47:26 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To: Candice D. Reid, City Clerk

I am writing to you today with my strong support for the ONE Casino+Resort proposal. With its over 50 acres of green space for all to enjoy, commitment to giving back to our community, the goal of 50% minority hiring, partnerships with Richmond's most renowned **local** restaurateurs bringing the taste of Richmond, live music venue, and perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond where it would be easy to access for visitors, but not lead to additional congestion in our neighborhoods, the ONE project is the right fit for Richmond. Not to mention it would be the only Black-owned casino in America and has over 50 other minority **LOCAL** investors as well. It's unheard of and would be historical!

ONE is exactly what Richmond needs. It's a catalyst for good things to come not just for the 8th district but for ALL of Richmond. I hope you will select ONE as the casino operator for Richmond.

Please include this email in the record of the April 26th City Council Meeting.

Sincerely, Remar Robinson From:

To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: Jordan, Katherine - City Council; Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council; Lynch,

Stephanie A. - City Council Office; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council; Trammell, Reva M. - City Council; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City Council; Larson, Kristen N. - City Council; EconDev; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mayor Levar Stoney; Mitchell, Valaryee

N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza - PDR

Subject: Please No Casino

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 7:01:20 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To all elected and appointed officials,

Please count us among those who oppose a casino in the city of Richmond, especially at the Bowe Tie Cinema location.

The social costs from the money taken from those who need it most is too great.

Sincerely,

Clark and Monica Glavé

From: Ann Fuqua

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office;</u>; <u>Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council;</u>

Subject: Please vote no for a casino on the Authur Ashe BLVD

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 5:40:24 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am requesting that the city council vote NO in consideration of a casino on the BLVD. My reasons are numerous.

Please don't allow this to happen to our unique and beautiful neighborhood. Revilitzation is on the horizon, we don't need a casino. VCU has committed to the baseball diamond and improvements are happening organically because of it!

Casinos are readily available just a few states away, please allow Richmond to continue to develop into her own original destination point along the BLVD beautifully bookended by Maymont and the Lewis Ginter Gardens.

We don't need a casino in the middle of what is already a unique and proud BLVD. Respectfully

Ann and Wayne Fuqua

From: Erin Kilgore
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Casino at Movieland site

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 9:37:07 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern

I am opposed to the casino at the Movieland site.

Part of the appeal of RVA and especially Scott's Addition is that our growth over the last 10 - 15 years has happened organically with local business driving the growth.

The proposed Casino will not aesthetically fit the neighborhood.

Traffic on Arthur Ash is already bad. Adding a Casino is going to make it worse.

A casino is going to bring neighboring property values down.

The surrounding neighborhood would see an increase in break-ins, stolen property, and other crime.

When people visit a casino they only come to the casino they don't visit local restaurants and shops.

I oppose any casino in RVA, however, it makes more sense to put one outside of the city to reduce harm to local communities and business.

Thanks

Erin Kilgore

From: Janet Scagnelli

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>; ; <u>Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council</u>

Subject: Casino NO!

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:08:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To whom it concerns,

I want you to know I am opposed to a casino built at Movieland.

There are so many reasons, just to name a few:

Casinos do not help property values. They hurt them. I've been living in Northside for 26 years. I cannot imagine this will enhance my neighborhood.

They will destroy local restaurant business. I support our local places who have struggled to survive the pandemic. Now this?

The impact of the proportion of the size of the casino to the surrounding neighborhoods is huge. The traffic will change our neighborhood for the worse.

PLEASE do not allow this casino to go forward!

Sincerely,

Janet Scagnelli

Ginter Park and now Bellevue resident

From: Jasmine Snead
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Casino

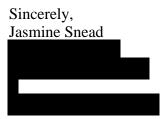
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 9:35:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Philip Nichols

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>; <u>Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council</u>

Subject: Cordish Company Bow Tie Proposal Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:44:35 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Councilwoman Lambert,

Having been residents of the area for more than 50 years and homeowners in the City of Richmond for 27 years, based on observed "successes" of city government-managed development projects, we have ZERO confidence level in the City's ability to successfully manage any major undertaking.

That said, the idea of a gargantuan casino (approx. 1.5 times the size of Short Pump Town Center), In the cozy confines of Scott's Addition, shows a total blindness to the capacity of the existing infrastructure and limitations on expansion of surface transportation. Looking at the ongoing and planned residential and commercial construction for the immediate area, no reasonable person would conclude that the Cordish Company Bow Tie Plan would be advisable or in the best interest of the community.

Please vote to disapprove this project.

Thank you for your service and consideration of these comments.

Philip W. Nichols

From: Elaine Lidholm
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject:Cordish Movieland Casino ProposalDate:Sunday, April 25, 2021 9:13:20 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am opposed to the casino at Bow Tie. Please do not burden the community with this assault to our neighborhood economically, socially, psychologically, and architecturally. We do not want it and will be extremely displeased if you ignore our plea: no Bow Tie casino.

Elaine Lidholm 2nd Council District

Sent from my iPhone

From: mary hearn

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 9:11:09 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Our family strongly opposes the Cornish Casino at Movieland!

As stated many times by others, this proposal does not fit with the Richmond 300 Plan. We want our city to be "livable"! We want to be proud of the city we live in. After being the focus of so much negativity due to our Confederate past, our City leaders now want to help our city have a different type of problem; increased crime, gambling & drug addiction. Leaders seem to be more interested in short term revenue and are willing to sacrifice the qualities that make a city livable.

What good are better schools if we don't have a quality of life for our young people? If they are further sucked into a life of crime or addiction?

We voted for both Mayor Stoney & Ann Frances Lambert who now represents our District. You will not be getting our votes next time around if you vote to pass this proposal. We will do everything we can to promote other candidates.

What a short sighted attempt to increase revenue while sacrificing quality of life! There is a better way & City Leaders need to find that way. Doug & Mary Hearn

From: Margaret Buchanan

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>; <u>Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council</u>;

Subject: Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:33:27 PM
Attachments: Casino No! 4x2.5 Sticker.pdf

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To All Concerned—I am deeply concerned about the potential impact of the proposed Cordish casino on the Northside of Richmond. The Arthur Ashe Boulevard corridor has enjoyed steady growth and improvement over the years in a way that feels organic, appropriate in scale and nature, and respectful of the area's history. The many restaurants, breweries, and arts and music venues are all welcome additions to the culture and growth of our city. The casino proposal reflects none of these things. This monstrosity would be shoe-horned like a sore thumb into our neighborhood with unimaginably negative consequences—to the overall character of our city, but particularly to area businesses. The impact of the certain increase in traffic alone is reason enough not to proceed. But perhaps most glaring is the fact that the citizens are overwhelmingly opposed.

Richmond, in recent years, has begun to be recognized nationally as a city of distinctive urban charm, vibrancy, and cultural appeal, not to mention its rich history. *The New York Times* even listed it as one of the "52 Places to Go in 2020." Let's not ruin it.

Respectfully,

Margaret Buchanan Buchanan Design

Margarer

Buchanan Besign

From: Kelly Kinsey
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject:Cordish Movieland Casino ProposalDate:Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:14:56 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

The reason my wife and I moved to the Ginter Park area was to be in a nice neighborhood without crime and tons of traffic. Ginter Park, Laburnum Park, and all the neighborhoods around us and near us do not need a casino, which of course WILL bring more traffic and crime, and I'm sure other problems. Why anyone would think that the Bowtie Cinema area is the place for a gambling establishment, are out of their minds! I can think of a dozen places outside of Richmond that are more suited for this type of business. I am all for business, but this is not the type of business that needs to be in our area! Forget the tax revenue; think about the people who live here...and the schools....and retirement homes nearby....and the quality of homes here and their owners! Of course then there's the traffic!!! And did I mention crime? We pay taxes too...to live in a nice area! DO NOT PUT A CASINO IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

From: Stephen Humphrey

To:

<u>City Clerk"s Office; EconDev; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. -</u> Fire; Mitchell, Valaryee N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza - PDR; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mayor Levar Stoney

Jordan, Katherine - City Council Cc:

Subject: I Oppose The Cordish Companies Resort Casino

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 9:14:31 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

In an August 7, 2014 article entitled "A Good Way to Wreck a Local Economy," the Atlantic business pages declared: "No one should look to the gambling industry to revive cities, because that's not what casinos do." The same article further stated: "The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is 'unambiguously negative,' according to the economists at the National Association of Realtors."

I'm opposed to a casino being built in any location where adjacent **neighborhoods are in opposition.** I am a resident of the Laburnum Park neighborhood, in walking distance to the Bow Tie Cinema, the site of the Cordish Companies proposed monstrous casino resort. Like most of my neighbors, I am vehemently opposed to a casino on Arthur Ashe Boulevard. Close by are public and independent schools, quiet, diverse residential neighborhoods, places of worship, small business retail areas, and retirement facilities. We have deep concerns about how such a monstrous development jammed into a 17-acre site will impact traffic, crime, property values, and the quality of daily life in the Northside, Scott's Addition, and the Fan. Neighborhood association surveys show an overwhelming majority of residents in these communities are opposed to this preposterous proposal. **The City's** RFP states that any proposed casino must have the support of communities in the area. Undoubtedly, the Cordish proposal does NOT have community support.

A casino is purposefully designed and operated as a separate economic entity from its surrounding businesses. So, a casino's success does not translate into success for neighboring businesses. Resort casinos are

carefully designed to be captive experiences: people come to the casino, stay, drink, gamble away their money, and then leave. The unique and organic growth of Scott's Addition is likely to deteriorate. Richmond area patrons of local small businesses will take their patronage elsewhere. All of which will have a negative effect on surrounding property values, causing a decline in tax revenue.

Personally, I don't trust the Cordish Companies, and the City of Richmond shouldn't either. Although the company touts its desire to be a good neighbor, its relationship with the City of Norfolk became very contentious (as reported in Tidewater area media) with threatened lawsuits and the revelation that Cordish had funded an opposition effort to prevent (as I understand it) a competing development. The Cordish casino operated with the Seminole Indian tribe in Florida also devolved into lawsuits.

Casinos draw gamblers and host big party-like events with lots of drinking and the city is left to deal with crime, traffic congestion, and bankruptcies.

Does anyone really believe that the best interests of the citizens of Richmond and the best interests of a gambling palace will be aligned after Cordish gets established here? How long will it take before Richmond and Cordish are at odds?

Not long ago, the City celebrated the exemplary life of its late son Arthur Ashe by naming in his honor a roadway widely seen as a potentially beautiful gateway into the city. Ashe wanted his Monument Avenue statue to depict him with children and books, along with a tennis racquet, a clear statement of his values. Now, will the City dishonor this dignified hero by turning his Boulevard into a Las Vegas strip with a Gotham City gambling palace?

It is well documented that gambling (why do we have to soften the term to "gaming"?) adds further misery to the lives of many who can ill afford to gamble their limited means. In this age of great economic disparity, the enormous wealth of the one percent impoverishes the lives of the 99 percent. Casinos deepen that disparity—by design, they extract rather than build community wealth.

Stephen Humphrey



From:
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: NO to a casino on Arthur Ashe Blvd!

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 9:44:42 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I live in 23227 and STRONGLY oppose a casino on Arthur Ashe Blvd. This would be harmful to the many residents in the immediate area. This is NOT what the capitol of the Commonwealth of Virginia should represent. From what I have seen and heard, the vast majority of residents in the many surrounding neighborhoods agree - WE DON'T WANT A CASINO ON AAB!!

From: Comical Teesa To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: ONE

Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:26:49 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

We want ONE to have the opportunity of transforming to a bigger city. We deserve a change. It's time to let our voices be heard.

From: Vanessa Johnson To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: ONE, Best Project for Richmond Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:37:41 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good evening,

I write this email in support of ONE being selected as the casino enterprise of choice. ONE has already been an essential partner with Richmond's business and service community. ONE is the one for Richmond City.

Thank you,

Vanessa Y. Johnson

From:

To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council
Subject: Opposed to casino at Bowtie site
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 9:13:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am strongly opposed to allowing a casino at the Movieland site. This is an area that is doing well and has made an economic recovery with small businesses, mostly restaurants. Allowing a large player to come in, with it's own competing food vendors that are loss leaders funded by gambling profits now that the neighborhood has come back is a slap in the face to all small businesses. Do not put a knee on the throat of the ones that have helped bring our city back. Do not tear down a movie theatre that citizens of this city helped fund with tax credits.

This bad idea is much like one a decade ago trying to force a baseball stadium into Sho Dixon Kerr

Union Hill, 7th district

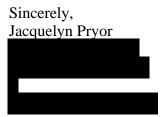
From: Jacquelyn Pryor
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE Casino
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 9:12:05 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Reneé Robinson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

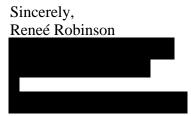
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 12:21:06 AM

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From: Lonnie Boykin
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

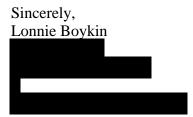
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 12:00:32 AM

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From: Andrea Hurlocker
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

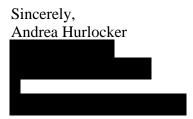
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:40:40 PM

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From: Cassandra Byrd
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

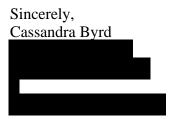
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:18:05 PM

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From: Reginald Baker
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

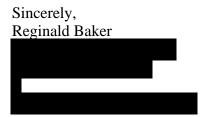
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:11:07 PM

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From: Samuel Quarles
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

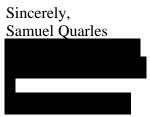
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:07:41 PM

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From: Quintavia Pettus
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

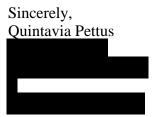
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 9:18:07 PM

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From: Bedros Bandazian
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

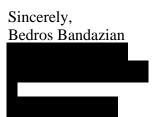
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:34:40 PM

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From: Ryan Kilgore
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Proposed Casino at Movieland
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2021 10:16:17 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

I'm opposed to any casino in Richmond, especially the Live! Casino and Hotel at the Movieland property. There are several reasons why:

- The casino doesn't fit in Scott's Addition that has organically grown for the past decade, having a skyrise next to a neighborhood will look horrible and the location is nearby to several residential neighborhood..
- The casino is unlikely to help the small businesses around it, since it will draw customers away from local restaurants and casino patrons are unlikely to visit other businesses in the area.
- Arthur Ashe Boulevard already has traffic problems. Adding a Casino will make the traffic much worse.
- Casinos are shown to increased crime to the area around them, including break ins and robberies.

Please do not support the Live! Casino and Hotel from the list of potential Richmond casinos.

Sincerely, Ryan Kilgore From: Lindsey

City Clerk"s Office To:

Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council Cc:

Subject: citizen comment for city council meeting 4/26/21

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:13:39 AM

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the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am opposed to a casino developed anywhere in the city of Richmond.

Thanks, Lindsey Wetherby From: Susan Rebillot
To: City Clerk"s Office

 Cc:
 Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council

 Subject:
 Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal

 Date:
 Monday, April 26, 2021 7:22:14 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good morning, Candace,

Please include our letter in the record for distribution to City Council prior to the meeting this evening for Public Comments. Thank you.

April 26, 2021

Ladies and Gentleman,

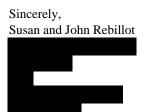
We are constituents who live in the 3rd City Council District, love the City of Richmond, and wish to see it grow and have improved economic success. However, the economic development strategy of bringing casinos to Richmond is a poor and destructive strategy. We will vote NO on the referendum in November to any selected casino.

1. We have 20 years of data from 23 states in the country, with non-casino industry, respected university economists agreeing that the costs/ benefits economically are 3:1, with municipalities spending 3 times the revenue to mitigate the negative impacts of casinos.

Ref.: Gambling in America, Costs and Benefits, book by Grinois.

- 2. Resort casinos do not drive increased business to local businesses. In fact, they are designed to be self-contained, as is the case with the Cordish Live proposal. It is designed with numerous restaurants, bars, and services to keep customers there, returning to the slot machines.
- 3. Data from municipalities around the country show that the rate of personal bankruptcies and gambling addictions increase with the presence of casinos. In fact, their designs are predatory, with computerized slot machines programmed to reward gamblers just enough to keep them in their seats and returning to gamble more.
- 4. There is a consensus of data from around the country that shows that it is only in the short term that favorable revenues and added jobs are experienced. In the long run, the "golden egg" myth perpetrated by the casino industry is not sustained.

As voters, we are incredibly disappointed in City leadership and City Planning and Development staff who continue to propose and push unsound, incredibly bad for Richmond economic development strategies. The people of Richmond are not stupid. If citizens like us read, research, and study city planning and development and good economic strategies, because we want Richmond to grow in a positive way, then so can City Council and City planning staff. We expect it of you. We will not accept less of you.



From: Nikisha Bratten
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: I love to see Richmond to bring it out there's nothing to talk about it.

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:49:38 AM

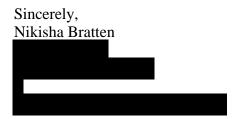
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Dear City Council,

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It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: LBJ Transportation
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: I want ONE!

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 6:41:20 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am going for urban one casino

From: LaBarbra Jones
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: I want ONE!

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 6:40:05 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I want the ONE casino which will benefit us the most in the long term

Get Outlook for Android

From: Jones, Labarbra
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: I want ONE!

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 6:42:55 AM

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the sender's address and know the content is safe.

My vote is for the urban one casino

With Much Gratitude,

LaBarbra Jones

From: Patricia Jones
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: One Casino Resort

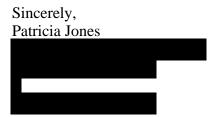
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:12:50 AM

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From: Jameika Pollard To: City Clerk"s Office Subject: One Casino

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:25:55 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I would like One to be the choice for our casino need. Thanks --Jameika Pollard

From: Jack Landess
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: ONE

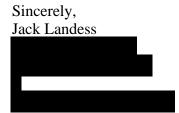
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:40:41 AM

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From: Tanya Satterwhite
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: ONE

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:21:54 AM

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I support ONE.

Tanya

From: Martha Murphy
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

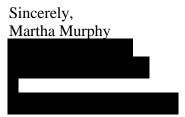
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:22:49 AM

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From: Michelle Simmons
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

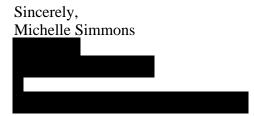
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:15:51 AM

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From: Kristi Nelligan
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

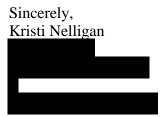
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 5:06:40 AM

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From: Archie Mew
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

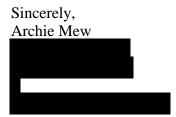
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 4:22:40 AM

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From: Mollie Roscoe
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

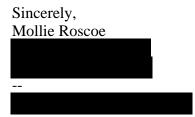
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:02:09 AM

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From: Scott Landess
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

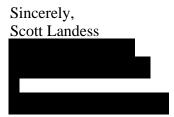
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 2:32:41 AM

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From: Della Winston
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

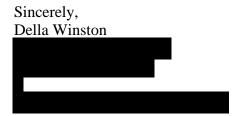
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 2:09:12 AM

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From: Eric Hurlocker
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:56:32 AM

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From: Carolyn Martin
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

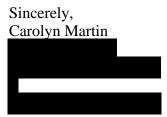
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:40:40 AM

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From: Roy Drake
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please select ONE

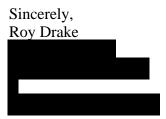
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 2:19:42 AM

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From: Denise Kern
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Casino at Movieland opposed

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:11:15 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Candice D. Reid, I am opposed to building a casino at the Movieland site. Denise Kern Resident of city From: Brent Chermside
To: City Clerk"s Office;
Subject: Casino proposals

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:19:09 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Honorable representatives,

My name is Brent Chermside, and I am a property owner in the historic neighborhood of Ginter Park. I have lived and worked in Richmond city for my entire adult life, after growing up here and attending the city's Governor's School. I am strongly opposed to any casino in our city. I am, accordingly, opposed to the proposed Movieland site - as I am opposed to all of the proposed sites that have been reviewed.

Property values of neighborhoods adjacent to casinos decline, as seen in other cities: casinos do not enrich communities over time. According to the National Association of Realtors, The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is unambiguously negative.

The Cordish proposal is for a self-contained, one-stop gambling, entertainment, and dining complex with 18 restaurants designed to capture every dollar from visitors. It will cannibalize the fragile local restaurant ecosystem and our entertainment venues, all trying to recover after the COVID quarantines.

The Cordish proposal calls for a huge, out of scale complex on the Bow Tie. At 1.9 million square feet, this project will be 1.5 times the size of Town Center at Short Pump. The impacts on existing neighborhoods, and on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Leigh Street, and I-95 are unknown and, frankly, unimaginable.

The Cordish proposal calls for a 3,500-space structured parking garage. This is not â €œcommunity-based economic development. This is scaled for a regional mall.

The Cordish proposal conflicts with massive Northside development already in process. It is not coordinated with the proposed VCU Athletic Village, the additional densities in Scott's Addition, or the City-owned properties around the Baseball Stadium, or with the broader scale and vitality of our city.

The RFP issued by the city stipulated that any casino proposal must have community support. The Cordish proposal at the Bowtie site fails to meet this simple requirement. Citizens are overwhelmingly opposed, and multiple neighborhood associations have formally stated their opposition to the project while none support it.

The City has known about the prospect of a casino for over a year, yet chose to omit it from the recent update of the Richmond 300 Master Plan All three sites violate the recently adopted Master Plan Goals for Equitable Transportation and a Diverse Economy.

Instead of spending the last year to identify and plan for a site that might work for all, the City has chosen a process that pits neighborhood against neighborhood, with an opaque process to bypass public input on siting decisions, consideration of traffic, environment, small business enrichment, and crime prevention. Instead, all critical issues were outsourced to private gambling interests based outside our Central Virginia region.

The state legislature is forcing this choice on our community, based on moneyed lobbies, rather than based on any drive by residents to invite a casino to our community. We should give it a resounding no -- at Movieland, and everywhere else around the city. Please, hear your constituents' voices and lend your energies towards stopping this.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any follow-up questions about my position:



Respectfully,

Brent Chermside

From: Catherine Moore
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Casino

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:04:09 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am opposed to the casino being built at the Movieland site. The traffic congestion is terrible at this point. Additional traffic will make matters worse!! Thank you Catherine Moore 3106 W Grace St

Sent from my iPhone

From: Danielle Cohen
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: City Council Meeting Community Comments

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:29:41 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

My name is Danielle Cohen and I am a resident in the 1^{st} District (Museum District) and would like to be a part of tonight's public comments. My email address is

My comments will reflect my opposition to the building of a casino in Richmond, specifically the Bowtie Movieland site.

If you would please let me know if I will have time, I would appreciate it.

Danielle

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Tom Allin

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Cc: Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council

Subject: Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:25:24 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To All,

I am writing to state that I OPPOSE the casino on the boulevard for the following reasons. Although these come from other documents I believe all are applicable and I agree with them and have added my own notes to them:

- Property values of neighborhoods adjacent to casinos decline, as seen in other cities: casinos do not enrich communities over time. According to the National Association of Realtors, "The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is unambiguously negative." Just look at Atlantic City new jersey.
- The Cordish proposal is for a self-contained, one-stop gambling, entertainment, and dining complex with 18 restaurants designed to capture every dollar from visitors. It will cannibalize the fragile local restaurant ecosystem and our entertainment venues, all trying to recover after the COVID quarantines. Casino visitors typically do not support other local businesses as they gamblers come for one reason and are only here for a short period.
- The Cordish proposal calls for a huge, out of scale complex on the Bow Tie. At 1.9 million square feet, this project will be 1.5 times the size of Town Center at Short Pump. The impacts on existing neighborhoods, and on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Leigh Street, and I-95 are unknown and, frankly, unimaginable. Traffic will be

- UNMANAGABLE especially with the new stadium and development of the diamond property.
- The Cordish proposal calls for a 3,500-space structured parking garage. This is not "community-based economic development." This is scaled for a regional mall.
- The Cordish proposal conflicts with massive Northside development already in process. It is not coordinated with the proposed VCU Athletic Village, the additional densities in Scott's Addition, or the City-owned properties around the Baseball Stadium, or with the broader scale and vitality of our city.
- The RFP issued by the city stipulated that any casino proposal must have community support. The Cordish proposal at the Bowtie site fails to meet this simple requirement. Citizens are overwhelmingly opposed, and multiple neighborhood associations have formally stated their opposition to the project while none support it.
 NORTHSIDE CITIZENS OVERWHELMINGLY OPPOSE THIS PROJECT
- The City has known about the prospect of a casino for over a year, yet chose to omit it from the recent update of the Richmond 300 Master Plan All three sites violate the recently adopted Master Plan Goals for Equitable Transportation and a Diverse Economy.
 He Richmond 300 was a well thought out process, the casino development is and was not
- Instead of spending the last year to identify and plan for a site that might work for all, the City has chosen a process that pits neighborhood against neighborhood, with an opaque process to bypass public input on siting decisions, consideration of traffic, environment, small business enrichment, and crime prevention. Instead, all critical issues were outsourced to private gambling interests based outside our Central Virginia region.

Why did the City reject the downtown site recommended by hired consultants? Convergence Strategy Group picked the downtown as the best choice. It would have replaced the Richmond Coliseum blight and provided an anchor for future development. Why was it not included among the initial six proposals?

Tom Allin



From: Mark Mumford
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: for PUBLIC COMMENT 4/26/2021 City Council Meeting

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:04:48 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Candace D. Reid, City Clerk

This is in lieu of a personal appearance at city council public comment. Please enter it into the public record.

NO to LIVE CASINO: Please do not select, vote for, or allow the Cordish LIVE Casino to be on the ballot referendum in November. That Arthur Ashe/Scotts Addition location is a terrible place to put a Casino, for many reasons. 95 is already usually very slow and congested near that. Scott's Addition has a thriving business community of independent entrepreneurs who continue to open restaurants, breweries, and other businesses organically. A casino is so inappropriate in that location, and would overwhelm the existing streets and neighborhood. Also, the Bowtie Cinema complex is a much-needed asset to the film lovers who live in the city. It is a rare service that we don't have to drive to other counties for, a family destination, and I expect once the pandemic wanes the parking lot will be full again every weekend with throngs going back to the movies. I know I attended 2 or 3 times a month. Please choose or vote NO to Cordish LIVE Arthur Ashe Blvd Casino!!!!

YES to ONE CASINO: On the other hand: I listened in (with an open mind) on zoom meetings with the ONE Commerce Road proposal and was impressed with the location, the research and outreach that team did, and the partnerships they already have with the local community-and new ones they intend to make. That location is right in view of 95, but not interfering with city streets and traffic. They really listened to the neighborhood on the calls, and answered concerns and followed up on suggestions. They appear to have a vast amount of support in that area for many reasons: the jobs and training they will bring (not just in Casino work, but in studio, radio and television work), the partnerships with local vendors and businesses they will include in the plan, and the 55 acres of Green Space that will include a playground, walking paths, places for outdoor entertainment. This neighborhood feels like this proposal is an OPPORTUNITY, and as other neighborhoods have expressed their feelings about a casino, this district should be allowed to have their feelings supported. After looking carefully at all the proposals that have come through in the last few months, and spending hours on the MS Teams meetings, I think it is the ONLY ONE that is a "fit" for Richmond.

Selection Committee, and later full City Council: Please Choose YES to ONE Casino for the Ballot Referendum in November.

Thanks for all you folks do, and for your attention,

Mark Mumford

From: Eliza Askin

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office; Newbille,</u>

Cynthia I. - City Council; Irammell, Reva M. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City Council; Jordan, Katherine - City Council; Larson, Kristen N. - City Council; EconDev; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mayor Levar Stoney; Mitchell, Valaryee N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza - PDR; Addison, Andreas D.

- City Council

Subject: I ask that you vote against the Cordish casino proposal in Scotts Addition.

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:45:12 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Council Member,

There are usually 3 justifications for a casino to exist in a particular neighborhood: (1) creation of jobs, (2) increases of tax revenue, and (3) peripheral economic development for the surrounding area. When put in their full context, none of these justifications are present for the Cordish proposal at Movieland/Scott's addition.

First, the Cordish proposal estimates the casino would create 3,000 new jobs. However, it does not specify the source of these jobs. The assumption is that these will come from the local community, but Cordish cannot guarantee that. In fact, given that Cordish has multiple casino locations across the East Coast, a high percentage of these "new jobs" will likely be laterals from other locations. The Cordish's proposed location at Scott's Addition, in particular, is also unlikely to source its jobs locally because it lies immediately at the junction of 95 and 64, making it easy for employees to commute from anywhere. Another significant percentage of these 3,000 jobs are thus likely to come from all over the state. While this casino will create 3,000 new jobs, there is no guarantee, and a low likelihood, that these will be 3,000 "Richmond jobs."

Second, the Cordish proposal promises increases in tax revenue. Again, while this might be true, more context reveals this is a hollow justification. While the jobs will likely be sourced outside of Richmond, the "tax revenue" generated will primarily be sourced locally—by taxing the gains and losses of bets of members of the community. In addition, a smaller percentage of this tax revenue will stay in Richmond—a significant chunk of corporate and sales taxes from this Casino will go to broader pools of revenue with the federal government and the state—not Richmond. The promise of increased tax revenue therefore means little when the revenue is gained from the community, yet largely leaves the community. Property taxes are a locality's best source of revenue. My guess is this proposal will feature property tax breaks, so no return to our community.

Third and finally, the Cordish proposal promises economic development for the surrounding area and Richmond. We have heard this story before in Scott's Addition. The now Washington Football Team promised huge economic ripple effects for their training facility, which did not turn out in practice. Unlike the WFT proposal, the Cordish proposal comes at a time when Scott's Addition has already rapidly developed—sourced from many local businesses. What economic benefit does Buz and Ned's, the Broadberry, Ardent Brewery,

and other businesses stand to gain when the Casino already has its own internal restaurant, bar, and entertainment? Further, I sincerely doubt any tourism draw for this proposed casino. Many existing casinos today benefit from their scarcity—people drive to DC or New Jersey because they are the only casinos around. How does Richmond expect tourists from up north to come here if they can stop in DC? How do we expect other Virginians to drive here when casino proposals are to be approved in Roanoke or Hampton Roads?

In short, when put in their full context, the justifications behind the Cordish proposal demonstrate that this casino will merely take revenue from our community and give it to a larger corporation, with little investment return to Scott's Addition, or Richmond in general. For these reasons, I ask that you vote against the Cordish casino proposal in Scotts Addition.

Eliza B Askin 2nd District

From: My Main Yahoo
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: I want One

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:54:31 AM

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I want one.

v/r,

Sharon Mayo-Taylor

Sent from my iPhone

From: Kimberly Hitchens
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: NO CASINO @ Bow tie

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:56:34 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

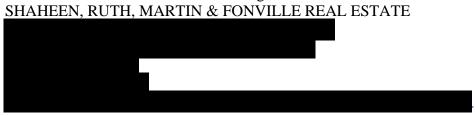
To whom it may concern,

Please accept this email as my STRONG opinion/vote that our city does NOT want a casino built in our neighborhood. It will create too much traffic, potential crime, and an overall bad element being brought into our community. We're already dealing with too much polarization and a schism in the socio-economic landscape. It would be a better use of the city's efforts to focus on improving our schools, infrastructure and social services for under served communities. A casino will only prey upon the most vulnerable of our neighbors. Please SAY NO TO THE CASINO! Thank you!

Kimberly Hitchens

REALTOR®, SRES®, e-PRO®

Licensed in The Commonwealth of Virginia



From: Kimberly Hitchens
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: NO CASINO @ Bow tie

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:56:34 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

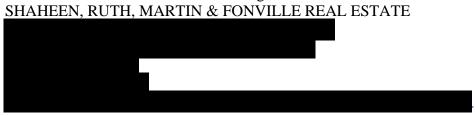
To whom it may concern,

Please accept this email as my STRONG opinion/vote that our city does NOT want a casino built in our neighborhood. It will create too much traffic, potential crime, and an overall bad element being brought into our community. We're already dealing with too much polarization and a schism in the socio-economic landscape. It would be a better use of the city's efforts to focus on improving our schools, infrastructure and social services for under served communities. A casino will only prey upon the most vulnerable of our neighbors. Please SAY NO TO THE CASINO! Thank you!

Kimberly Hitchens

REALTOR®, SRES®, e-PRO®

Licensed in The Commonwealth of Virginia



From: Jill Dimitri

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office; EconDev</u>

Subject: No Casino! And No to Movieland site!

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:59:57 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To Honorable Members, Richmond City Council and To Honorable Members, Casino Evaluation Committee

>

> I don't want to see any casino in Richmond! Richmond doesn't need it. Richmonders don't want it. There are many, BETTER ways to provide for economic development, building on existing tourism, business, outdoor and educational activities. The "craze" for gambling is misguided and probably short-lived. I urge you to vote AGAINST the entire concept.

>

- > If, however, this is pursued, PLEASE oppose the Northside/Movieland option. It's too close to settled residential areas and will create too much traffic and congestion (already a problem on Arthur Ashe Blvd-especially during ball games and rush hours.) Even more important, the area is already immersed in positive development (Scott's Addition, VCU sports venues, and more.). A casino would, literally, stick out like a sore thumb and destroy the wonderful current community atmosphere which is strong and growing in a natural way. I cringe when I see the proposed project's high rise and "over-the-top" glitzy plans. It would be totally out of place in Northside!
- > Thank you for your attention to these concerns.

>

> Jill Hanken Dimitri



From: jamal hasan

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: One Casino and Resort

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:30:41 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Concerned Citizens and Government Officials,

Please select the One Casino and Resort. The historical implications alone with drive tourism in the city.

Thanks,

Jamal

From: Fred & Mitzi Golod

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>; <u>Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council</u>

Subject: Opposed to a Casino on Arthur Ashe Boulevard

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:35:05 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am adamantly opposed to a casino on Arthur Ashe Boulevard. If the Cordish Companies, or any other casino developer, wishes to redevelop the Coliseum property, we would consider the proposal. This would turn a derelict downtown property into a potential revenue generating site with the job opportunities, near I-95.

Scott's Addition has emerged as one of Richmond's most vibrant downtown communities. The casino risks losing the unique character of this neighborhood which attracts both locals and visitors to our city. We do not see how this proposal fits into the recently adopted Master Plan Goals for Equitable Transportation and a Diverse Economy.

Respectfully,

Mitzi R. Golod

From: Brian W. Spencer
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Opposition to Casino on Arthur Ashe Boulevard

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:57:01 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

I am writing to oppose the development of any casino on Arthur Ashe Boulevard. The proposed location is approximately one mile north of my house and if developed will negatively impact me. Traffic, quality of life, lower property values and possibly crime are potential concerns I have.

I have family in Biloxi, Mississippi and remember the impact casinos had on that community when they were first allowed in the early 1990s. Numerous pawn shops opened and the community feeling was more transient.

In closing, please vote against the Arthur Ashe Boulevard casino site.

Thank you for your consideration.

Brian W. Spencer

From: Stacey Trexler
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Please choose One Casino

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:18:50 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.

As you make a final selection on a casino operator in the coming weeks, I sincerely urge you to choose ONE!

Sincerely,
Stacey Trexler

From: Nikki Grant
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

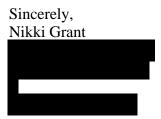
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:40:34 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Maria Bond
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

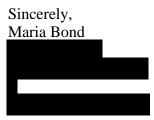
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:57:51 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Bettie Threatts
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

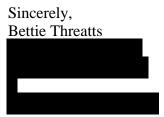
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:48:53 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: John Hamilton
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Richmond Casino

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:49:30 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Stop this casino process, no casino in Richmond anywhere.

The Atlantic said The <u>Institute for American Values has gathered the best evidence on the social consequences of casinos</u>. That evidence should worry any responsible city government.

Please include the linked article in the record.

Aaron Sullivan posted a link to an article that addresses these issues.

Sincerely,

John Hamilton

Sent from my iPad

From: Chris Grandpre City Clerk"s Office To:

Cc: Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council;

> Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council; Trammell, Reva M. - City Council; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City Council; Larson, Kristen N. - City Council; EconDev; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mayor Levar Stoney; Mitchell, Valaryee N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza -

Subject: Strong Opposition to a Casino at the Movieland Site

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:31:26 AM

Attachments: ATT00001.png

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To Candice D. Reid, City Clerk, Members of City Council and the Casino Evaluation Panel:

As a resident of the Second District, we want to communicate our very strong opposition to potential development of the Movieland site as a casino. While we support the continued efforts to develop the areas north of The Fan and east of Scott's Addition, we do not believe that a casino is the proper type of development in this area.

We purchased a home on the 2000 block of Grace Street in the fall of 2019. We embarked on a complete rehabilitation of the home and were excited to move back into the City and be part of the overall revitalization of this block just south of several Sauer Center properties and the new Whole Foods. However, the development of a casino at the Movieland site would cause us to regret our move and renovation investment as it is inconsistent with the residential and family friendly nature of The Fan.

While we understand and support the need for the City to continue to seek development options and grow its tax base, we believe that a casino at the Movieland site is inappropriate fit for this area that is contiguous to an important residential area of the City. We strongly urge you to consider alternative sites or alternative sources of development for the Movieland site.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

Chris Grandpre Chairman & CEO

Outdoor Living Brands, Inc.









From: Stephanie Rhoades
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Support ONE Casino Resort- Candice D Reid, City Clerk;

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:38:56 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Candice D Reid, City Clerk;

I support ONE Casino Resort - it's the best location and proposal for Richmond! - AND

Please include this email in the record of the April 26th City Council Meeting showing my support of the City of Richmond selecting the **ONE Casino Resort**

Stephanie Rhoades

Chesterfield, VA

Stephanie Rhoades (Humble Moments)

From: Sharon Mirtschin
To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council; EconDey; Robertson, Ellen F. - City

<u> Council; Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel,</u>

Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire

Subject: Against the Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:25:55 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

I'm very much against any casino being built in Richmond, but especially one in Scott's Addition.

The impact of this casino on the Northside neighborhoods would be very negative. A casino would cause

increased traffic in an already densely packed area, increased crime, and a decrease in housing property values.

Plus the neighborhood restaurants would lose a lot of business to the 18 onsite casino restaurants.

The Cordish proposal conflicts with Northside development already in process. It is not coordinated with the proposed

VCU Athletic Village, or with the City-owned properties around the Baseball Stadium, or with the broader scale

and ambiance of our city. The RFP issued by the city stipulated that any casino proposal must have community support.

The proposal at the Bowtie site does not have that support. My neighbors and I are overwhelmingly opposed to the

casino, and multiple neighborhood associations have formally stated their opposition to the project.

Then there's the addictive nature of a casino environment and the misery it brings to those who can least afford to lose their

hard earned money. In the end, the "house" always wins, PERIOD!

Please do not let this huge monstrosity ruin our beautiful community.

Respectfully,

Sharon Mirtschin

From: Pattie Kennedy
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Casino

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:09:51 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

A casino will NOT add any meaningful value to our city.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Douglas Scott

To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Casino

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:29:10 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Douglas & Elizabeth Scott

Ms. Candice D. Reed

Clerk of the City of Richmond

RE: Casino Item Today before City Council

Dear Ms. Reed:

The following constitute the comments of my wife and I at this time regarding the proposed casino development.

Please present this message to the Council Members.

We are Douglas and Elizabeth Scott. We have lived at 1203 Wilmington Avenue in Laburnum Park for more than thirty years. We raised our two daughters in this house and each worked in the City for the entire time.

is an Edwardian dwelling that we have (mostly) rehabilitated

personally. To say that

Laburnum Park was a slum when we purchased it would be an understatement. The redevelopment of this neighborhood has

been a credit to the City and is a source of pride.

Personally, I am a retired lawyer, with thirty-eight years of practice. My spouse, Betsy, for many years

Worked for many years at a prominent non-profit in the City. She is an active member of SaintThomas Episcopal Church.

What do we think about the proposal? Not much.

There are so many things wrong with this project that we cannot count them. You, on the other hand, as our elected representatives are under an affirmative obligation to do so.

Let's get started:

This Beast is Enormous!

We have lived here for more than thirty years; this is a terrible idea. The project, if approved, is the equivalent of a nuclear strike on my neighborhood.

Traffic. Let's trash the traffic on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Leigh Street, Lakeside Avenue, Laburnum Avenue and all the entrances and exits to I-95, I-64 and I-195, North and South. Unless you happen to live up here, you have no idea what chaos would ensue were the project approved.

Property Values. Very nice: residents of Southside, for example, can vote to have a casino without traffic problems or the values of their houses plummeting.

This is no paranoid resident myth, unfortunately. Objective research demonstrates that casino developments are an "unambiguously negative" factor on residential housing values.

Infill. For a moment, let's forget the 1.9 *million* square foot Cordish proposal. Let's consider instead the desires of business people to want to get get close to the casino to make money. Child' play: convenience stores; gas stations; restaurants, fast food and other; bars; gun stores; and motels. Think it will be somewhat crowded? Think again.

Scott's Addition. Some of the neighbors think that redevelopment progress is too slow but others have a more pragmatic view. However, you can kiss that progress bye bye if the proposed behemoth is constructed.

Redevelopment of Boulevard Corridor. If the City could ever figure out what to do with the baseball stadium, there is an exciting opportunity for development at that location. The City owns large tracts that could used for any number of purposes to benefit the citizens.

Thank you for you attention.

The Cordish Proposal is nothing less, nor different from, a proposal to construct a gigantic factory. If you consider this issue, as you should, omitting the emotions people have about gambling, it is just that. There is no conceivable way that the Richmond City Council would approve the construction of a gigantic factory on the Movieland site.

There is a reason why Las Vegas was built all-by-it's-self in the desert. My views on gambling have no bearing here but I feel the need to tell a story, albeit a short one. Virginia lawyers have a saying: move to the nuisance. In real life, it happens all the time.

What you are considering is allowing construction of an enormous nuisance. Do not say that we didn't warn you.

Sincerely,

From: julia seward
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: comment - casinos, citizen voice and the Bowtie location

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:35:04 AM

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the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I thank Council members for actively supporting better citizen voice. But I am confused because the City does not publicly acknowledge feedback it is getting from neighborhoods that surround the Bowtie casino proposal. Many neighborhood groups have been responsible in engaging their residents in discussions about the proposed location through board convenings, meetings and even going an extra step with resident surveys. In this we respect the perspectives of all people and groups.

There is opposition to the Bowtie location from multiple neighborhoods. Yet in public meetings the City does not embrace citizen response. Neighborhood opposition is not acknowledged and survey results are downplayed.

Please understand and acknowledge that many neighborhood associations surrounding the Bowtie location object to this site - and in many cases by hefty margins. The location does not make sense for families, thriving neighborhoods and local small businesses. I trust that you will respect the efforts of citizens and consider neighborhood voice in the selection decision.

Julia Seward

From: Spay Um
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:33:43 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

- Property values of neighborhoods adjacent to casinos decline, as seen in other cities: casinos do not enrich communities over time. According to the National Association of Realtors, "The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is unambiguously negative."
- The Cordish proposal is for a self-contained, one-stop gambling, entertainment, and dining complex with 18 restaurants designed to capture every dollar from visitors. It will cannibalize the fragile local restaurant ecosystem and our entertainment venues, all trying to recover after the COVID guarantines.
- The Cordish proposal calls for a huge, out of scale complex on the Bow Tie. At 1.9
 million square feet, this project will be 1.5 times the size of Town Center at Short
 Pump. The impacts on existing neighborhoods, and on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Leigh
 Street, and I-95 are unknown and, frankly, unimaginable.
- The Cordish proposal calls for a 3,500-space structured parking garage. This is not "community-based economic development." This is scaled for a regional mall.
- The Cordish proposal conflicts with massive Northside development already in process. It is not coordinated with the proposed VCU Athletic Village, the additional densities in Scott's Addition, or the City-owned properties around the Baseball Stadium, or with the broader scale and vitality of our city.
- The RFP issued by the city stipulated that any casino proposal must have community support. The Cordish proposal at the Bowtie site fails to meet this simple requirement.
 Citizens are overwhelmingly opposed, and multiple neighborhood associations have formally stated their opposition to the project while none support it.
- The City has known about the prospect of a casino for over a year, yet chose to omit
 it from the recent update of the Richmond 300 Master Plan All three sites violate the
 recently adopted Master Plan Goals for Equitable Transportation and a Diverse
 Economy.
- Instead of spending the last year to identify and plan for a site that might work for all, the City has chosen a process that pits neighborhood against neighborhood, with an opaque process to bypass public input on siting decisions, consideration of traffic, environment, small business enrichment, and crime prevention. Instead, all critical issues were outsourced to private gambling interests based outside our Central Virginia region.
- Why did the City reject the downtown site recommended by hired consultants?

Convergence Strategy Group picked the downtown as the best choice. It would have replaced the Richmond Coliseum blight and provided an anchor for future development. Why was it not included among the initial six proposals?



From: Spay Um
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:27:58 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

As a homeowner living on the northside I am adamantly against the casino proposal.

- Property values of neighborhoods adjacent to casinos decline, as seen in other cities: casinos do not enrich communities over time. According to the National Association of Realtors, "The impact of casinos on neighboring property values is unambiguously negative."
- The Cordish proposal is for a self-contained, one-stop gambling, entertainment, and dining complex with 18 restaurants designed to capture every dollar from visitors. It will cannibalize the fragile local restaurant ecosystem and our entertainment venues, all trying to recover after the COVID guarantines.
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 Citizens are overwhelmingly opposed, and multiple neighborhood associations have formally stated their opposition to the project while none support it.
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- Instead of spending the last year to identify and plan for a site that might work for all, the City has chosen a process that pits neighborhood against neighborhood, with an opaque process to bypass public input on siting decisions, consideration of traffic, environment, small business enrichment, and crime prevention. Instead, all critical issues were outsourced to private gambling interests based outside our Central Virginia region.
- Why did the City reject the downtown site recommended by hired consultants?

Convergence Strategy Group picked the downtown as the best choice. It would have replaced the Richmond Coliseum blight and provided an anchor for future development. Why was it not included among the initial six proposals?

Susan DeFazio Laburnam Park Blvd.



From: Danielle Cohen
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: FW: Casino - No Vote!

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:40:09 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Since the public comments have been limited, I would like to reiterate my position on a casino in the

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Danielle Cohen

City of Richmond

Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 9:41 PM

Subject: Casino - No Vote!

I am opposed to a casino in Richmond at any of the three proposed locations. Let me be clear. But as a former resident of the Fan and current resident of the Museum District, I am writing from my community's perspective.

Scott's Addition used to be pretty bleak 10+ years ago with a few small businesses. Now, it is a fun, hip area of social gaming outlets, breweries, businesses, non-profits, restaurants and condos and homes. This area is connected to Ginter Park, the Museum District and the Fan. 40+ years ago people dare not venture into these parts of the City because they were considered less than desirable. Those who lived here before, and those of us living here now, have worked to restore and maintain these historic communities and transform them into some of the most exciting places in the City. The people in these communities have worked hard to restore the beauty of 100+ year old homes and renovate warehouses that were once dilapidated. The people in these communities invested here and chose to pay some of the highest taxes around because of the way of life in these neighborhoods. Now you are saying our investment doesn't matter because the City wants a "quick fix" to its tax problems.

Unlike many of our friends, we have always chosen to live in the City, having owned homes in Ginter Park, the Fan and now Museum District. We bought here for the charm, historic character and walkability to restaurants, businesses as well as strong sense of community. We support local business and it is rare to ever find us in Short Pump at a chain restaurant. Adding a Casino to this City will erode all of that. Maybe not in 5 years, but the world will move on and Richmond will be left with a aging structure that has no place in this area.

I appreciate the Coridsh Company and the others promising that these new ventures will not bring crime, traffic or a dissolution of our historic charm, but that seems like a good sales pitch that is impossible. Have you been on the Boulevard when there is a Squirrels game? Traffic is definitely an issue. Having recently returned to my home state of Connecticut over last few years, I can tell you from experience that casinos bring crime – MGM in Springfield, MA and Mohegan Sun in Ucasville, CT to be exact. Place all the security and cameras you want in and around the venue...crime will come and that is just the beginning.

The City was thrilled when developers took a historic building, renovated it and turned it into Movieland. Now, you are willing to have it destroyed. The City was happy to watch those of us across multiple generations pour our hearts, souls and dollars into revitalizing the Fan, Museum District and Ginter Park turning it into a high tax revenue base and now you are willing to put up an unsightly structure, in a small already crowded space and devalue our properties. Never forget the old saying...leave with the one you came with.

I understand the difficulties of economic development and balancing revenue and jobs with the status quo. I do not envy your position. However, moving forward with this plan will cost you the citizens of Richmond. Despite all of our work and love of Richmond, a casino here would cause us to leave to avoid what I believe will be the downfall of this community. Has the City asked itself why other localities (Henrico, Chesterfield, New Kent, etc) are not clamoring for this? If it seems to good to be true...it probably is.

If Richmond "has to build" a Casino, why can it not be done in area that has the least impact on the people who have invested in their communities – this does not mean the richest, but those who have combated crime, cleaned up trash, formed neighborhood groups and done their best to create a safe and aesthetically pleasing environment. All of the proposed sites will impact the surrounding neighborhoods and I hope the City will examine alternative sites if this must be done.

I have advocated for this City since moving here is 1996. I hope that Richmond will remember the people who have made this City what it is and not sell us out. Please do not destroy what has made Richmond great.

Thank you. I hope you make the right decision for the people of this City.

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: shonita gregory
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Fwd: One Casino

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:23:26 AM

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **shonita gregory**

Date: Mon, Apr 26, 2021, 8:46 AM

Subject: One Casino

To:

We want One. I am a resident and pay taxes to the city of Richmond. I believe that One Casino will offer great economic development and jobs for the city of Richmond. Please choose One as this is the only and best option for our city.

Sincerely

Shonita Gregory

From:
To: City Clerk"s Office

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:11:59 AM

Attachments: .msq

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

From: Sterling Lloyd

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>; <u>Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council</u>

Subject: NO Casino at Movieland

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:33:04 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Putting a casino at the site off of Boulevard would ruin a thriving up-and-coming business and residential neighborhood in Scott's Addition. It would directly impact the close-by neighborhoods of Ginter Park, Laburnum Park, Rosedale, Sherwood Park, Virginia Union and Ginter Park Terrace, Edgewood, Brookland Park, Washington Park and Bellevue.

Traffic before and after Flying Squirrels games would be a nightmare.

It will cannibalize the fragile local restaurant ecosystem and our entertainment venues, all trying to recover after the COVID quarantines.

There is ample evidence that neighborhoods do not sustain prosperity when casinos invade them.

We want more for Richmond - and there is not support for this casino among Northside residents.

The Cordish plan for a casino must be defeated.

Sterling Lloyd Seminary Ave.

From: Martin and Hope
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

 Cc:
 Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council

 Subject:
 NO CASINOS - LET"S BET ON RPS!

 Date:
 Monday, April 26, 2021 9:08:52 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Candice D. Reid, City Clerk
Delegate Jeff Bourne
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert

I am, have always been, and always will be AGAINST casinos and lotteries anywhere and everywhere. They destroy far more people than they ever begin to help. If you have extra money you want to take a chance on, GIVE it to your local public school. I guarantee you will see far greater returns on it every time.

I would be happy to brainstorm with interested parties on ways to organize the investment of time and money to the future of the city through individual giving and creative family-friendly community activities that directly support our schools.

LET'S BET ON RPS!

Respectfully, Hope Armstrong Erb, Ginter Park resident and life-long teacher YWCA 2016 Outstanding Woman Honoree From: Carolyn Mines
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

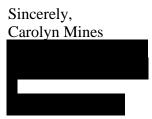
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:41:21 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Luvenia Bartee
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

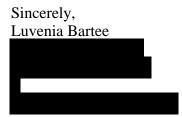
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:38:27 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Bernard Stephens
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

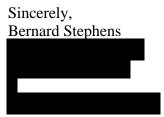
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:35:29 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

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It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Richard Johnson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

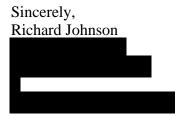
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:34:28 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Cynthia Robinson
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

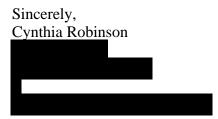
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:32:30 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Angela Reed
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:28:50 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Anne Shields
To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: <u>Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council</u>

Subject: public comment, opposition to Bow Tie casino

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:33:15 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good morning.

I am a resident of Laburnum Park, 3rd district, and adamantly oppose the casino development at the Bow Tie cinema location.

The inadequate traffic infrastructure of the neighborhood can stand alone is opposition for this proposed development. However, there are many additional reasons residents stand in opposition to the casino.

The neighboring areas have spent decades trying to rebuild a supportive, collaborative, inclusive neighborhood with an emphasis on small, local businesses. The bully mentality of corporations that superficially promote their allegiance to our community is a far cry from the historical and grassroots efforts that we now rely on and share a reciprocity of benefits. There is no reciprocity of benefits for a 1.9 million square foot development that dismantles our community and ignores the positive, competing opportunities for the Bow Tie site. Please vote NO to the casino development at the Bow Tie location.

Gratefully.
Anne Shields

From:

To: Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council

Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Larson, Kristen N. - City Council; Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council; Trammell, Reva M. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City Council; EconDev; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. -

<u>DED</u>; <u>Carter, Melvin D. - Fire</u>

Cc: Will Allcott; "Trudi Allcott"

Subject: Saying a firm "NO" to Casino development at the Bow Tie site

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:27:19 AM

Attachments: winmail.dat
Importance: High

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council Members, Evaluation Committee, Elected Representatives:

I am writing to say that my husband and I are extremely opposed to the proposed Casino Development at the Bow Tie site. We have lived on Seminary Avenue in Ginter Park for 20 years and consider this North Side area to be part of our neighborhood. In addition, we drive through Scott's Addition on a daily basis via Arthur Ashe Boulevard. Our reasons for opposing this project are as follows:

- 1. Scott's Addition is undergoing an astonishing organic development. This organic growth is healthy and thriving. Why in the world would we want to interrupt that natural growth for the benefit of out of town casino operators?
- 2. Traffic through Scott's Addition on the Boulevard and around the Arthur Ashe Center is already testing the limits of the streets. This Casino development has parking for another 3,500 cars-an unimaginable increase in vehicular traffic in an area that is already stretched to the breaking point.
- 3. The proposal for the Bow Tie site is mammoth and is way out of scale for the neighborhood. The buildings are too tall, too massive and there will be far too much light and noise pollution for the adjacent neighborhoods.
- 4. We fear that this Casino development will have a negative impact on the VCU Sports Complex. The VCU Sports Complex is the type of development we welcome in Northside. It will benefit the city and the residents and fits with the organic growth on the neighborhood.
- 5. We fear this proposed development will negatively affect property values in surrounding Northside neighborhoods.
- 6. Our North Side community is really thriving. All kinds of people live in harmony in North Side. The neighborhoods are mixed, the businesses are growing and there is great community spirit. Why, oh why, would you want to disrupt all of this healthy organic growth for a few tax dollars. That did not work with the Redskins and we are confident it won't work with the Casino.

In short, the proposed Casino development for the Bow Tie site is a non-starter. The community is overwhelmingly opposed to this unsuitable development idea. Please listen to your constituents. If you don't, we fear a rapid deterioration of this vital part of Richmond.

Sincerely,

Truitt Allcott William Allcott From:

To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: "Trudi Allcott"

Subject: Saying a firm "NO" to Casino development at the Bow Tie site

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:29:24 AM

Importance: High

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council Members, Evaluation Committee, Elected Representatives:

I am writing to say that my husband and I are extremely opposed to the proposed Casino

Development at the Bow Tie site. We have lived on Seminary Avenue in Ginter Park for 20 years and consider this North Side area to be part of our neighborhood. In addition, we drive through Scott's Addition on a daily basis via Arthur Ashe Boulevard. Our reasons for opposing this project are as follows:

- 1. Scott's Addition is undergoing an astonishing organic development. This organic growth is healthy and thriving. Why in the world would we want to interrupt that natural growth for the benefit of out of town casino operators?
- 2. Traffic through Scott's Addition on the Boulevard and around the Arthur Ashe Center is already testing the limits of the streets. This Casino development has parking for another 3,500 cars—an unimaginable increase in vehicular traffic in an area that is already stretched to the breaking point.
- 3. The proposal for the Bow Tie site is mammoth and is way out of scale for the neighborhood. The buildings are too tall, too massive and there will be far too much light and noise pollution for the adjacent neighborhoods.
- 4. We fear that this Casino development will have a negative impact on the VCU Sports Complex. The VCU Sports Complex is the type of development we welcome in Northside. It will benefit the city and the residents and fits with the organic growth on the neighborhood.
- 5. We fear this proposed development will negatively affect property values in surrounding Northside neighborhoods.
- 6. Our North Side community is really thriving. All kinds of people live in harmony in North Side. The neighborhoods are mixed, the businesses are growing and there is great community spirit. Why, oh why, would you want to disrupt all of this healthy organic growth for a few tax dollars. That did not work with the Redskins and we are confident it won't work with the Casino.

In short, the proposed Casino development for the Bow Tie site is a non-starter. The community is overwhelmingly opposed to this unsuitable development idea. Please listen to your constituents. If you don't, we fear a rapid deterioration of this vital part of Richmond.

Sincerely,

Truitt Allcott



From: Teresa Davis
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Vote NO on the Cordish Company Bow Tie proposal

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:15:24 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Please include my letter in the record for distribution to City Council prior to the meeting this evening.

The Cordish Company Bow Tie proposal to build a casino in Scott's Addition is a unacceptable for many reasons, several are included below.

The proposal would encompass an area 1.5 times the size of Short Pump Town Center, dwarfing any development in the area.

Casinos are self contained and add little if any economic gains for any business in the area, those visiting a casino come for the casino, not the neighborhood businesses.

If the city administration has been aware of this proposal why was not included in the Richmond 300 Master Plan?

This proposal would heavily impact the local neighborhoods with additional traffic, rerouting of area freeway exits, which would result in loss of housing and total disruption to the Rosedale neighborhood and surrounding communities.

Why was downtown site recommended by hired consultants not considered, because it was deemed not appropriate for the area?

The proposal has been vetted by numerous local neighborhood resident associations and 18 associations residents have spoken and have come out against the proposal.

I respectfully request that you reject the proposal for the Cordish Bow Tie proposal.

Teresa M. Davis Laburnum Park From: James Schmidt
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Cc: Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council

Subject: [spam] Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:56:56 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Sirs,

As I was unable to get a slot to speak at the City Council's meeting tonight, I am sending these brief comments to oppose the licensing and construction of a casino complex in the City of Richmond, and in particular against the proposed location on The Boulevard (at the Movieland site).

I am writing as a long-term resident of the City, with a house and business in Ginter Park, who has worked, invested, volunteered, supported local businesses, and paid taxes in the City for decades.

Having looked over the Movieland site proposal, I have concluded that the proposal is wholly inappropriate in scale and purpose with the vibrant and organic development that has occurred in the neighborhoods on either side of the Movieland Site, and across the North Side, for the last 20+ years. The Scott's Addition developments, together with the other local developments along and north of Broad Street east of The Boulevard, have been wonderful to watch, and to support. The proposed massive casino complex would be a blight and poison to the surrounding neighborhoods including, eventually, with adverse ripples out to my own Ginter Park neighborhood.

Moreover, I do not believe that the proposed casino and related developments will improve the reputation of Richmond as a city of makers, artisans, and people who care for each other and our City.

If the Council must allow a casino to be built, at least let this sort of blight go somewhere other than where strong, local growth in neighborhood businesses is already strong -- perhaps in a "brownfield" area away from existing housing and growth, where it will blend in and not damage existing residents, businesses, and social interactions. Perhaps the Coliseum neighborhood? Or on the Southside, along I-95?

But better yet, please keep Richmond free of casino complex development.

I hereby register my opposition to the Casino Proposal at the Movieland site.

James A. Schmidt

From:
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Casino - Opposition to Bow Tie Cinema Location

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:56:30 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk, RVA,

I am writing this brief note to register my strong opposition to locating a casino on the Bow Tie Cinema site on Arthur Ashe Boulevard. Please see that it is received by each member of City Council. A summary list of reasons for my opposition include?

- 1) Nonconformity with the RVA 300 plan.
- 2) Contrary to what the city has long proposed for the Boulevard district
- 3) Traffic infrastructure is already taxed. Multiple accidents at ramp to I-95.
- 4) The pedestrian access to the development proposed for the Boulevard will be compromised severely by a high traffic casino dependent upon cars and busses.
- 5) Casino design and operations "101" is to capture the customer and keep them inside the property until their money is spent. A casino will not support RVA's food entrepreneurs.
- 6) What goes on in the casino will not stay in the casino, but compromise the residential areas those proposed for the AA Boulevard corridor. (Petty theft assault, prostitution and trafficking)
- 7) The casino industry is built upon illicit activity, thus the "What goes on in Vegas stays in Vegas" tag line. Vegas tried to make it family friendly a few years back and it utterly failed and they went back to the tried and true.
- 8) Placing a casino at Bow Tie, or anywhere in central RVA is a knife in the back of residents who believed city leadership's constant statements that they would follow proper planning methods and embrace resident interests.
- 9) During the Cordish presentation its reps stated that they would be drawing from within a two hour drive time. There are multiple casinos existing or to be built within that range. The numbers do not add up.
- 10) A large, illuminated structure on AA Boulevard (so that it can be seen from 195) is a stick in the eye for nearby residents (Northside, the Museum District and the Fan).
- 11) A casino located at the Bow Tie site is a shortsighted economic development bobble, the "shiny shiny", that will tarnish soon after the current elected officials and appointed bureaucrats have moved on to their next pursuit.

There are multiple other reason to object to this bad idea and they will be shared in the appropriate forum.

Hampton Carver

City Resident Northside From: Sarah Driggs
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: City Council meeting

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:41:48 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Reid,

Please give this message to City Council members before the meeting this evening. Thank you.

Sarah Driggs

Dear Council members,

I live in Laburnum Park, and most of my neighbors and I oppose the endorsement of a casino at ANY location where the nearby neighborhoods object to its development. I specifically oppose a casino at the Movieland site, the proposed site close to us.

I am concerned about the effect on development along Arthur Ashe Boulevard, an area that has plenty of organic, small local businesses, and a neighborhood feel. A casino would absorb much of the money spent in this community, hampering the growth and development of local businesses, whose profits would stay here.

I worry about the overwhelming traffic that a casino would pull off the interstate, plowing through the neighborhood. The traffic is already clogged during baseball games, but those events are at specific times during half the year, and those fans often come early and stay late at local restaurants and breweries. I worry that the increased traffic would be used to justify moving the interchange further into our neighborhood, to the end of Laburnum Avenue as a proposal from VDOT suggests. That would increase traffic not just on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, but would send cars through residential neighborhoods that aren't laid out for heavy traffic.

I worry about the effect a casino would have on the developing VCU Athletic Village. Gambling and collegiate sports are not a good combination.

- -I worry about property values which always drop near casinos, and we don't wish that on our neighbors.
- -The design and height of the building is ridiculous, dwarfing any other buildings in the neighborhood and lit to be seen from I-95.
- Increases in crime are notorious around casinos.
- There would unforeseen costs in infrastructure caused by increased traffic, and these costs would not benefit the general city resident, but only the visitors.

Basically, we all worry that a glitzy casino, whose profits would go out of town, would

overwhelm this historic business district, which the city has allowed to grow organically until now.

The RFP that you all sent out stated that the casino would not be placed in a neighborhood that doesn't want it. Consider that answered. We don't want it.

Please don't approve a casino at Movieland, and please consider if any neighborhood in Richmond might welcome a casino before you approve one of the proposals. The RFP said it would not be placed in any neighborhood that didn't want it. Would you want it in your neighborhood?

Thank you,

Sarah Driggs

From: Kathleen McLaughlin
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Comment to Council on casino proposal at Bowtie Cinema location

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:57:21 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The project proponent's projections of profitability are not supported by historical evidence. While casinos might initially bring in high dollar figures, they also have huge overhead and loan payoffs which reduce the actual profit margin. The argument that this is a single casino also does not hold up under analysis when you look at other cities such as Philadelphia, which now has 10 casinos. Also in the Philadelphia example, the profits earned were only 2/3 of projections. In part, this can be attributable to multiple operations reducing site-specific profitability, resulting in a concurrent reduction in projected tax revenue.

The City process for this huge undertaking has not been transparent. The public information and comment period have been unusually curtailed resulting in public distrust of the process. Citizens are concerned about increased traffic, crime, and stresses to existing utility infrastructure. We are concerned about destruction of existing businesses around the proposed venue, incompatible development within the historic neighborhood as well as conflicts with ongoing and planned development in Scott's Addition. The scope, scale, and massing of this project are grossly disproportionate with the surrounding historical area. The Council has cited increased tax revenue and jobs as a public benefit of this project. Historically, most jobs created through these developments are either temporary, such as initial construction, or low paying service-industry jobs. Ultimately, the Council has failed to share their critical analysis of the project proponents underlying data, algorithms, or contractual requirements for job creation and the public is skeptical.

Ultimately, the original RFP stipulated that any casino proposal must have community support and this proposal fails to meet that threshold. The surrounding community has overwhelming voiced support of ongoing and planned development of the VCU Athletic Village, the baseball stadium, and a new green space or park. Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

From: Geoff Ward

To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Family in Council District 3 Opposed to Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:50:35 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Councilmembers,

My family and I would like to urge you to oppose the casino project at the movie theatre site on Arthur Ashe Blvd. It is inconsistent with the City's new master plan, which has a great design and future planned for that area, inconsistent with existing uses, would have terrible impacts on the Northside and Scott's Addition, and would snarl traffic to the Fan, the Museum District, and Carytown.

That site is a prime area for a community engaging development, which a casino is not. A casino is a business build on human misery. It contributes nothing to the community. It would be wildly inappropriate for that area and would be nothing our family or most of our neighbors would ever visit. In contrast, the Richmond 300 Plan envisions community friendly uses for that site and the surrounding areas.

We hope you feel the same and urge the council to oppose it. Sincerely,

Geoff, Alyssa, Aubrey, and Taylor Ward

From: Sarah Driggs
To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: <u>Jordan, Katherine - City Council</u>
Subject: Fwd: City Council meeting
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:47:35 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Reid.

I just sent this without including my full information, so am resending.

Please give this message to City Council members before the meeting this evening. Thank you.

Sarah Driggs Second District

Dear Council members,

I live in Laburnum Park, and most of my neighbors and I oppose the endorsement of a casino at ANY location where the nearby neighborhoods object to its development. I specifically oppose a casino at the Movieland site, the proposed site close to us.

I am concerned about the effect on development along Arthur Ashe Boulevard, an area that has plenty of organic, small local businesses, and a neighborhood feel. A casino would absorb much of the money spent in this community, hampering the growth and development of local businesses, whose profits would stay here.

I worry about the overwhelming traffic that a casino would pull off the interstate, plowing through the neighborhood. The traffic is already clogged during baseball games, but those events are at specific times during half the year, and those fans often come early and stay late at local restaurants and breweries. I worry that the increased traffic would be used to justify moving the interchange further into our neighborhood, to the end of Laburnum Avenue as a proposal from VDOT suggests. That would increase traffic not just on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, but would send cars through residential neighborhoods that aren't laid out for heavy traffic.

I worry about the effect a casino would have on the developing VCU Athletic Village. Gambling and collegiate sports are not a good combination.

- -I worry about property values which always drop near casinos, and we don't wish that on our neighbors.
- -The design and height of the building is ridiculous, dwarfing any other buildings in the neighborhood and lit to be seen from I-95.
- Increases in crime are notorious around casinos.
- There would unforeseen costs in infrastructure caused by increased traffic, and these costs would not benefit the general city resident, but only the visitors.

Basically, we all worry that a glitzy casino, whose profits would go out of town, would overwhelm this historic business district, which the city has allowed to grow organically until now.

The RFP that you all sent out stated that the casino would not be placed in a neighborhood that doesn't want it. Consider that answered. We don't want it.

Please don't approve a casino at Movieland, and please consider if any neighborhood in Richmond might welcome a casino before you approve one of the proposals. The RFP said it would not be placed in any neighborhood that didn't want it. Would you want it in your neighborhood?

Thank you,



From: Roberta Carew
To: <u>City Clerk's Office</u>
Subject: No Casino @ Bowtie

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:52:15 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I would like to express my thoughts on No Casino @ Bowtie. The scale of this Casino is huge and will negatively impact the existing neighborhoods, businesses and the highway infrastructure.

Because this casino proposal is for a self-contained complex with 18 restaurants it will hurt the local restaurants. The Northside does not need this casino. This project was not in the Richmond 300 Master Plan and should not be included now.

Thank You, Roberta Carew From: Clark Warthen

To: City Clerk"s Office; EconDey; Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council; Addison, Andreas D. - City Council; Saunders,

Lincoln - Mayor"s Office; Ebert, Sharon L. - DED; Steidel, Robert C. - DCAO of Operations; Carter, Melvin D. - Fire; Sledge, Leonard L. - DED; Mayor Levar Stoney; Mitchell, Valaryee N. - CWB; Pechin, Maritza - PDR; Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council; Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office; Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council; Trammell, Reva M. - City Council; Jones, Michael J. - City Council; Jordan, Katherine - City Council; Larson,

Kristen N. - City Council

Subject: NO Casino at Bowtie

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:52:47 AM

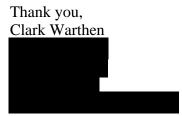
CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I am a native Richmonder who recently moved back to the City and purchased a home for my family in the Second District.

I am very concerned about the proposed casino at the Bowtie location. That part of the City has been on the upswing, and it has been great to see that. To decimate local business with a massive development including 0/18 local Richmond restaurants would be a great disservice to the neighborhood, the City, and the hardworking small business owners who will be negatively impacted.

Your responsibility as advisors and council members is to act for the people of this City. We are opposed, so ask that you vote NO TO THE BOWTIE CASINO.



From: Melanie Sterling
To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: <u>Lambert, Ann-Frances - City Council</u>

Subject: NO Casino Attention: Candice D. Reid, City Clerk

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:52:14 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Re: NO CASINO

I am writing as a citizen of the city of Richmond, and a resident of Ginter Park. I am concerned by the proposal to build a Casino in Richmond. Our city is a destination for the arts, diverse music and award winning food. We are a historic city with green spaces, a major river, interesting architecture, and strong communities. Building a Casino, while initially bring jobs and revenue to the city, is a short term, flash in the pan development that has no place in the strategic development plan for Richmond – and is not mentioned in the approved Richmond 300 Master Plan. Let's not muck up our organically developing city with large new buildings, parking garages, traffic and short term jobs. We don't want more large-scale complexes built in our historic neighborhoods! We already have welcomed a proposed VCU Athletic Village. A Casino development next door is in conflict.

In addition, I am concerned about the negative impact of the Casino on our communities and property values. And for goodness sake, we do not need additional restaurants to capture tourist dollars to cannibalize the fragile restaurant and entertainment venues that are trying to recover after Covid-19.

The Ginter Park Residents Association is overwhelmingly against the development of the Cordish Company Bow Tie proposal. This proposal does not have community support. Please act on behalf of the people you represent.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melanie (& Arden) Sterling

__

From: Brian Ross
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: No to casino

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:41:44 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I am adamantly opposed to any casino development in Richmond.

We have more pressing priorities.

Brian Ross

From: Cynthia Myer
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Opposition to Casino at Bowtie

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:52:31 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I am strongly opposed to the Casino at the Bowtie Complex, and in any other neighborhood where it's opposed.

I have lived near other casino communities, and have seen how they develop over the years. The quality and type of construction and style of building does not age well. The adjacent neighborhoods of Scotts Addition, Jackson Ward, Carver, Ginter Park, The Fan are special and unique in character and history and this type of development is neither in keeping with its neighbors, nor does it enhance them.

Further, the primary goal of a casino development is to capture every dollar from their customers, and to keep visitors on their own campus as much as possible. In my experience, people coming to casinos are not visiting the area to see nearby museums or to explore a new city. The promises made to surrounding businesses by the developers do not seem viable, or honest. Eighteen restaurants are planned within the casino development so it's hard to imagine how this would bring new guests to nearby restaurants, and might possibly draw customers away.

There is so much money to be made by these developers: I think they are inclined to paint an extremely rosy picture in order to win favor, but long term I believe it's a terrible idea for our city. The money for the city is tempting, and our mayor would like a seemingly bright, shiny project to burnish his resume for his next gig. He will be long gone before the rest of us realize this as a shabby, short term fix for a long term problem which is better tackled with long term solutions.

Richmond is a wonderful place to live and work. Let's build on that, and not ruin it with a casino.

Cynthia Myer

From: Sarah Driggs
To: City Clerk"s Office

Cc: <u>Jordan, Katherine - City Council</u>

Subject: Opposition to casino

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:45:17 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Reid,

Please give this message to City Council members before the meeting this evening. Thank you.

Frank Driggs 2nd District

Dear Council members,

I live in Laburnum Park, and most of my neighbors and I oppose the endorsement of a casino at ANY location where the nearby neighborhoods object to its development. I specifically oppose a casino at the Movieland site, the proposed site close to us.

I am concerned about the effect on development along Arthur Ashe Boulevard, an area that has plenty of organic, small local businesses, and a neighborhood feel. A casino would absorb much of the money spent in this community, hampering the growth and development of local businesses, whose profits would stay here.

I worry about the overwhelming traffic that a casino would pull off the interstate, plowing through the neighborhood. The traffic is already clogged during baseball games, but those events are at specific times during half the year, and those fans often come early and stay late at local restaurants and breweries. I worry that the increased traffic would be used to justify moving the interchange further into our neighborhood, to the end of Laburnum Avenue as a proposal from VDOT suggests. That would increase traffic not just on Arthur Ashe Boulevard, but would send cars through residential neighborhoods that aren't laid out for heavy traffic.

I worry about the effect a casino would have on the developing VCU Athletic Village. Gambling and collegiate sports are not a good combination.

- -I worry about property values which always drop near casinos, and we don't wish that on our neighbors.
- -The design and height of the building is ridiculous, dwarfing any other buildings in the neighborhood and lit to be seen from I-95.
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- There would unforeseen costs in infrastructure caused by increased traffic, and these costs would not benefit the general city resident, but only the visitors.

Basically, we all worry that a glitzy casino, whose profits would go out of town, would overwhelm this historic business district, which the city has allowed to grow organically until now.

The RFP that you all sent out stated that the casino would not be placed in a neighborhood that doesn't want it. Consider that answered. We don't want it.

Please don't approve a casino at Movieland, and please consider if any neighborhood in Richmond might welcome a casino before you approve one of the proposals. The RFP said it would not be placed in any neighborhood that didn't want it. Would you want it in your neighborhood?

Thank you,



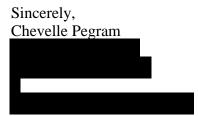
From: Chevelle Pegram
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:56:54 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal.



From: Bob Willoughby
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

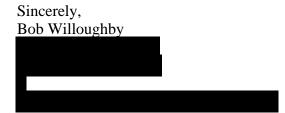
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:53:29 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Beverly Bush
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

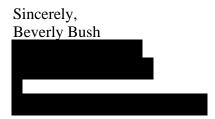
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:47:41 AM

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Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Shardan Sandoval
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

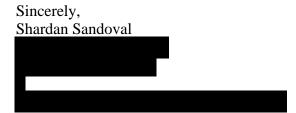
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:42:29 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Kathleen Mclaughlin
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Re: Comment to Council on casino proposal at Bowtie Cinema location

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:57:49 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Kathleen McLaughlin

On Mon, Apr 26, 2021 at 9:56 AM Kathleen McLaughlin wrote:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The project proponent's projections of profitability are not supported by historical evidence. While casinos might initially bring in high dollar figures, they also have huge overhead and loan payoffs which reduce the actual profit margin. The argument that this is a single casino also does not hold up under analysis when you look at other cities such as Philadelphia, which now has 10 casinos. Also in the Philadelphia example, the profits earned were only 2/3 of projections. In part, this can be attributable to multiple operations reducing site-specific profitability, resulting in a concurrent reduction in projected tax revenue.

The City process for this huge undertaking has not been transparent. The public information and comment period have been unusually curtailed resulting in public distrust of the process. Citizens are concerned about increased traffic, crime, and stresses to existing utility infrastructure. We are concerned about destruction of existing businesses around the proposed venue, incompatible development within the historic neighborhood as well as conflicts with ongoing and planned development in Scott's Addition. The scope, scale, and massing of this project are grossly disproportionate with the surrounding historical area. The Council has cited increased tax revenue and jobs as a public benefit of this project. Historically, most jobs created through these developments are either temporary, such as initial construction, or low paying service-industry jobs. Ultimately, the Council has failed to share their critical analysis of the project proponents underlying data, algorithms, or contractual requirements for job creation and the public is skeptical.

Ultimately, the original RFP stipulated that any casino proposal must have community support and this proposal fails to meet that threshold. The surrounding community has overwhelming voiced support of ongoing and planned development of the VCU Athletic Village, the baseball stadium, and a new green space or park. Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

From: David Maier
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: The idea of a casino. What are you guys thinking???

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:58:01 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council:

What are you guys thinking??? A casino???

As the City council, you are supposed to implement a vision for the city. You are supposed to find the strengths of the city, those things that make Richmond special, unique and worthy. And you build development plans around that.

And your Vision for Richmond, the thing that is special and unique and worthy, is a casino???? A place where people come in the delusion that they can defy rock-hard truths about probability and odds and come away more wealthy? A place set up by craven mercenaries who, knowing the rock-hard truths about odds and probability, capitalize on a sure-thing, because people in a various states of delusion- whether from addiction, or dire personal circumstances, lose all touch with reality and throw their hard-earned money, which they likely don't have much of, down a sink hole???

This is you vision for what will make Richmond a better place?

Some of you fancy yourselves to be entrepreneurs. And entrepreneur-- a good one--, has an idea; has THE idea. The entrepreneur has invented a widget that will change peoples' lives for the better; whose sole passion is to build and sell widgets to make the world a better place.

And your better idea for Richmond is a casino???

The only justification I have heard for this project is that it will make the city money. There are lots of things that will make the city money. Prostitution. Drugs. Ponzi schemes. That is NOT a justification for this project.

The other is that it will not be JUST a casino; it will be a destination resort. WRONG. A destination resort exists because there is a destination. Universal Studios; Disney World; even the Billy Graham library is a destination resort. Ashland Oregon decades ago established the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. And

people come thousands of miles to spend a weekend in this otherwise empty town. Empty but for the B&B's, bistros, bookstores and restaurants and galleries that sprang up because of this vision.

20 years ago or so, Richmond was offered the opportunity to have the first authentic replica of a Shakespearean theater on the banks of the James. The plans were complete; the money was available. And the City said No Thanks. Richmond could have become a genuine theatre town; a place to come to. But the City said no. The city of Staunton said yes. And as a result people come hundreds of miles to this sleepy town near the Blue Ridge; they browse the bookstores; they eat at the restaurants; they stay at the B&B's. THAT is a destination resort.

Anyone coming to this development will be coming to the casino. It will be designed, as ALL casinos are, to keep the people inside. Families will not come to this resort. "Mommy, Mommy, why isn't Daddy coming with us to the canal boats." "I'm sorry dear; daddy's down at the craps table."

I say again: What are you guys thinking???

I strongly encourage you to read James Fallows book (now an HBO documentary) which documents the successful efforts of small-ish cities, just like Richmond, to recover from the devastation of economic and cultural change. Here's a link to it:

t.ly/XAf4

And they show how these cities have capitalized on their strengths, of which Richmond is teeming. And none of these cities found their success in a freaking casino.

And the idea to build a casino here is, unfortunately, so characteristically Richmond, as was the decision to turn down the Blackfriars theatre. The casino craze has been with us for 20 years or so. Early adopters made some money and had some success. But the craze is dying; the novelty is gone. In a classic Richmond decision, it is deciding to jump onto this great new passenger liner just as it is colliding with the iceberg.

This "resort" will do nothing for neighborhood businesses; the local businesses will not gain from this; they will be hurt because this "resort" will succeed only if it is all things to all the people inside of it. That is the only way its developers will make money.

I have lived in towns with casino "resorts." Reno, Tahoe and towns in Oregon have casinos. And in every place the casinos are inward facing armpits in the community.

And this will be also. Five or ten years from now, people will look back on this decision and shake their heads. And they will all be saying:

What were these guys thinking????

Thank you for your time and attention.

Dave Maier

PS: If I weren't piloting a charter on the famed Richmond Canal this evening, I would attend the council meeting and speak to you in person. I'm sorry; but I'll be out on the canal describing to interested visitors the wonder that is Richmond.

From: Morgan Nagle
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Cordish Movieland Casino Proposal Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:59:15 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Richmond City Council Members,

As a resident and homeowner in the historic Laburnum Park District, I am vehemently opposed to the Bowtie location Live Casino Project. There are many reasons this location is not a good fit for this community. The Scott's Addition corridor is already a vibrant, thriving community with unique offerings of food, drink and culture. Cordish seeks to insert their hideously-designed compound into the area, instilling it with 18 'corporate' restaurants. Richmond's restaurant scene has just navigated the pandemic and is slowly rebounding. Cordish doesn't seek to partner with local restaurants or businesses. I fear they will suffer should this come to fruition.

Speaking of the design, the scale and size are not appropriate for this area. The renderings are grotesque in aesthetics and enormity. The Bowtie complex was carefully renovated and preserved and is a cornerstone of the AA Boulevard and SA neighborhoods. The National Association of Realtors has done studies on the impacts of casinos on property values, and the reports are not good. We are citizens who love our city and our neighborhood, and don't want to have to flee to the outlying counties.

The area is already quite congested on any given day at any given time. I couldn't imagine when a baseball game is starting/getting out. Even administering covid vaccines at the AA Center has snarled traffic recently.

This proposal also fails to meet community support. 94% of Ginter Park residents are opposed to this site. Many Scott's Addition businesses are weighing leaving all together if this passes in November. I am concerned about increased crime and human trafficking as well. Casinos are predatory by nature and will ruin people who are already struggling day to day.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts on the project. Please vote no to the LIve Project.

Sincerely, Morgan Nagle From: g

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Cordish proposal

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:32:30 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of Council:

As a resident living near the Arthur Ashe Boulevard, I am strongly opposed to the Cordish proposal for the following reasons:

- -at 1.9 million square feet, the project will be 1.5 times the size of Short Pump Town Center, wildly out of scale with the rest of the Boulevard, the surrounding neighborhood, and the traffic on the street itself.
- -this project is not "community-based economic development."
- -the RFP stipulated that any casino proposal must have community support. It does not.
- -the proposal is not supported in the Master Plan--even though the City has know about the prospect of a casino for over a year. The site violates the recently adopted Master Plan Goals for Equitable Transportation and a Diverse Economy.
- -the City's own consultants picked downtown as the best choice for a casino.

Sincerely,

Meg Lawrence

From:
To: City Clerk"s Office

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:02:57 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

CASINO!!!!!
We WANT ONE!

From: Warthen, Martha
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: No Casino @ Bow Tie

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:59:42 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

The Fan District Association has taken the following official position: We are opposed to a casino at any location where the neighboring community does not support it. It is important for us as neighbors to support one another. We are better together.

By last count eight neighborhood associations near the Bowtie site are opposed to the proposed casino development.

Scott's Addition is an already thriving business community with bars, restaurants and entertainment venues. The entire purpose of a casino resort is to keep its patrons within its four walls for their entire visit. The developer admits their average patron will stay 1.5-2 hotel nights. Instead of spending their money in our fabulous local businesses, patrons of a casino will spend their money INSIDE THE CASINO.

We understand Richmond needs additional revenue. But it should not be at the expense of our amazing local businesses. The Live! Casino will kill Richmond small businesses.

Martha Warthen
President, Fan District Association

From: Sarah Masters
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: NO Casino in Richmond

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 9:58:51 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Please accept these comments regarding the possibility of a casino coming to Richmond for this evening's City Council meeting.

I am writing to say that I am STRONGLY OPPOSED to bringing ANY casino to any location in Richmond. A casino is inconsistent with the sort of city Richmond is and can be, the place that residents can be proud of, and the place we are known for: the natural beauty and recreational opportunities of the James River and nearby trails; the fabulous and growing restaurant and brewery offerings; a city with a wealth of offerings in the arts including the visual arts, dance, live music (the Richmond Folk Festival!), and film (the French Film Festival!); a city rich in history and working to create a more fair and just history for the future, a city continually becoming more diverse and a richer place for its citizens.

As a resident of Laburnum Park, I am VEHEMENTLY OPPOSED to locating a cinema in the Bow Tie location. The siting and huge size of the proposal would surely harm surrounding businesses and residences and destroy the positive direction this area has taken as it has grown organically over the years. A casino would most likely draw people away from the businesses that area already in the area, since the casino would be the targeted destination with the goal of keeping visitors on the site. The volume of traffic or redesign of traffic patterns would be inappropriate and destructive to the entire area, keeping away those who might want to partake of the opportunities outside of the casino (i.e. those who currently frequent the shops and restaurants). I believe this site would ultimately be detrimental to the museums and the corridor along Arthur Ashe Boulevard. The Bow Tie Cinema has been a hugely positive addition to the neighborhood and is even more so now that there is considerable foot traffic from those living in Scott's Addition and eating a nearby restaurants. I have heard nothing that convinces me that a casino would improve the lives of the City residents even with possible employment opportunities.

Surely there are better, more thoughtful, more creative ways to bring income (that stays here) and jobs to the City. Please, please take great care as you consider this possibility and take some time to consider what other sorts of development might be better for Richmond and her residents in the long run.

Sincerely yours, Sarah Masters Palmyra Avenue, From: Tina Watkins
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: ONE RVA

Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:08:51 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize

the sender's address and know the content is safe.

I would like to put my support in for bringing ONE into the RVA community. This will increase jobs and revenue for the city, while supporting minority businesses.

Ms. Tina R. Watkins Long time City Resident From: Roberta Hunt
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>

Subject: Opposing the Proposed Bow Tie Casino Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:23:45 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Hi,

I am personally opposed to having a casino complex built at the Bowtie Movie Theater location for the following reasons:

- The proposal includes tearing down the historic building that is on that site. We need to preserve our historic buildings. They are central to the character of our city and what sets it apart from other cities of this size.
- The casino and it's proposed restaurants and related venues will compete with the surrounding Scott's Addition businesses.
- The look and feel of the casino plan is out of character with the surrounding area.
- Traffic is already a concern in this area and the casino will have a major negative impact on our streets!
- I've seen the effects of gambling addiction personally and I feel that this casino will make access to gambling all too easy for those who have addictive personalities.

Please do not allow this Bowtie casino plan to move forward!

Sincerely,



From: Robert Jones
To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

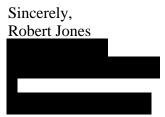
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 2:05:36 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

It's the complete package and the right fit for our community. It has over 55 acres of green space for all to enjoy, the team behind it is committed to being a part of and giving back to our community, the project has over 50 local minority investors, it will feature profit-sharing for employees, and it will be located in a perfect location off of I-95 in South Richmond.



From: Phyllis Hamilton
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

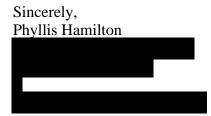
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 1:38:24 PM

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From: Kim Kerr

To: <u>City Clerk"s Office</u>
Subject: Please choose ONE

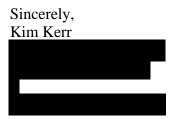
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 11:52:46 AM

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Dear City Council,

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From: Shanell Clark
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

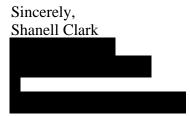
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 11:09:57 AM

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From: Cherita Ellis
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

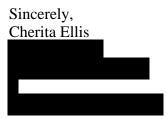
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:39:00 AM

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Dear City Council,

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From: Michael Nelligan
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

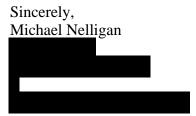
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:19:32 AM

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From: Mike Kerr

To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Please choose ONE

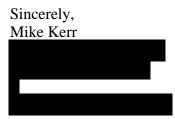
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:14:43 AM

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From: Mathew Myers
To: City Clerk"s Office
Subject: Please choose ONE

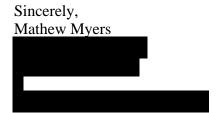
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 3:26:51 PM

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From: Robert Black
To: City Clerk"s Office

Subject: Urban One Casino progest

Monday, April 26, 2021 11:54:28 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

Date:

I am writing you today to let you know I strongly support the ONE casino and resort proposal. It's the right choice for all of Richmond.

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