Comments on August 1, 2018 Planning Commission agenda items, received July 31 – August 1

Items 1a/b, South Nashville Community Plan Amendment/Fairgrounds Mixed-Use District

----Original Message-----

From: Janie Bell [mailto:user@votervoice.net] Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 9:04 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Please support the Major League Soccer stadium

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

Major League Soccer will help Nashville in its quest to become an international city. Please support Major League Soccer and the renovation of the Fairgrounds. This location is ideal for a first class soccer stadium and for our city.

The purpose of this email is to express my support for the proposed Major League Soccer Stadium and renovations to the Fairgrounds Nashville. As a lifelong fan of soccer, and a resident of this amazing city, I couldn't think of better match than Nashville and pro soccer. This city loves its sports teams and adding professional soccer, the world's sport, to our lineup will cement Nashville as a global destination. This stadium has the added benefit of contributing millions of dollars to the fairgrounds, which desperately need renovations to remain the place beloved by many. If you vote yes to this proposal you will be doing your part to protect a place deeply tied to our city's history. It is my belief that a yes vote for the proposal is in the best interest of this city, I hope that you agree.

Thanks for your support!

Sincerely,

Janie Bell 900 20th Ave S Apt 602 Nashville, TN 37212 nashstylin@yahoo.com ----Original Message-----

From: Randall Schneider [mailto:randi8photo@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 7:47 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Rezoning bad for local businesses

Hi Planning commissioners,

You are about to vote on rezoning 10 acres for low income housing, hotel and bar. Here are a few important things to think about:

- 1. 900 apartment units means 1,000's of people, many low income, will be in confined area at any one time. Ask any psychiatrist what that means,
- 2. 200 hotel units, 100 or more middle class residents, in same area at same time. Possibility of theft or other negative interaction.
- 3. Add liquor sales to mix and you are heading for disaster.
- 4. Add soccer stadium and you increase potential criminal activity even more.
- 5. To much drinking, with such diverse group of people spells disaster.
- 6. Most stadiums suck millions from local economy putting many local businesses under.
- 7. All the activities on hill will be financing billionaires, not local businesses.
- 8. Drinking drivers coming out of fairground entrance, by school, could put local children at risk.
- 9. To many people, of varied economic and social means, living in small area could put others using fairgrounds at risk. Ex Could there be someone watching girls playing soccer at practice fields? Could there become violence at soccer fields?

Before you vote on rezoning, for merely potential economic benefits, maybe you should first talk to psychiatrists as to the potential negative social effects to many people, of varied economic and social background, will have on local residences and the community itself.

Is it not better to take time to thoroughly research this project and be certain of potential problems? Would it not be a better idea to delay this vote, and talk to professionals in various fields as to the viability of having so many people in a confined area and have a bar serving liquor?

Is it not better to know exactly what could happen before some tragedy happens, that could have been prevented with proper research before hand.

Or would you planning commissioners prefer the city of Nashville, and those politicians who rushed

into a project that put lives at risk, be sued by a family of injured party. Would it be worth the publicity and anguish of rushing through a zoning issue without proper research?

Let me know what you think?

Randy randi8photo@yahoo.com

From: neoent@juno.com [mailto:neoent@juno.com] **Sent:** Wednesday, August 01, 2018 11:30 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: No MLS Complex at Fairgrounds - stand alone stadium

Regarding the Planning Commission meeting scheduled for 4pm Wednesday August 1, here are my comments:

MLS soccer is a <u>major</u> not minor league and should stand alone by itself, not bring in a hotel, residential development or combination thereof for support.

Some MLS teams play all their league games at their cities NFL stadiums, plus the MLS organization did not tell them to build a soccer stadium, even new MLS teams that started playing last season.

A <u>major</u> league stadium should operate by itself alone, profitably or otherwise, without digging into other private establishments for support.

A soccer stadium consists of a playing field surrounded by seating arrangement for fans/media, plus players/referees dressing rooms, and enclaves for equipment to undertake their day-to-day routine maintenance. At most <u>only</u> a vacant (virgin) lot inside the fairgrounds may be considered as footprint (<u>only</u>) for said soccer stadium description. No demolition or use of demolition footprint land should be allowed.

Currently and for decades there are numerous residences <u>surrounding</u> the fairgrounds and they pay property taxes; same taxes that a residential development <u>inside</u> the fairground would pay; an argument that negates the need for residential development inside the fairgrounds. Also currently there are multi-story residential being built on 8th Ave South a stone throw from the fairgrounds (another reason that negate residential development inside the fairgrounds.

Music Row and Vanderbilt have existing surrounding hotels and more being built there, hence no need for hotel inside the fairgrounds.

Use of Metro land for hotel, new residential development or combination thereof to fund or subsidize the planning, design, construction, maintenance, debt repayment of a soccer stadium should not be done.

A fan can easily & readily walk (and in a matter of minutes too) from downtown to Metro Center via 2nd or 3rd Ave North (and at night too); same cannot be said for the fairgrounds from downtown. A case for Metro Center as a better choice for MLS, plus there are soccer playing fields (with an "s") that have existed for years and currently exist at Metro Center.

I can go on & on & on about why an MLS soccer stadium is not needed at the fairgrounds or better at other like said location; or at most not combined with hotel/residential enterprises.

Regards

Neo B.Eng M.Sc Vanderbilt University

Neo Ent Inc - President

From: Joan Rubincam [mailto:rubincamjl@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 11:13 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Fwd: 1a. 2018CP - 015-001 and 1b 2018SP-047-001 - NO

I am opposed to the Mixed-use Development and MLS Stadium development at the "Fairgrounds".

The **primary reason is that this proposal totally circumvents the 2011 Referendum**. So many of the decisions and planning for the stadium and development seems to have taken place in a very surreptitiously manner, much like Megan Berry's soccer park that reduced vendor and visitor parking dramatically. What Mayor Dean couldn't accomplish, Megan Berry and her staff did to circumvent the vote of the <u>citizens of of Nashville/Davidson County</u> - not Williamson, not Rutherford counties.

Like Titan stadium, this redevelopment of the Fairgrounds should be voted on by the citizens of Davidson County on the November ballot.

2. Traffic: i.e., coming from I-65 on Wedgewood there is a stone train tunnel that barely permits two cars to pass through simultaneously.

The area absorbing 900 apartments (cars) and offices (parking) being critical to the success of the soccer stadium?

- 3. Parking: There are monthly and annual events requiring more parking than is available on the grounds. Many families in the neighborhood earn money by allowing fair goers to temporarily park in their yards as well as some of professional buildings provide parking.
- 5. Financial: Will the "New" fairgrounds be able to continue to support itself. More Bond debt for a city that can't provide promised pay raises to teachers and major budget adjustments for many Departments.
- 6. History: The historic Fairgrounds will become another victim of being an "IT" city, losing its identity and loss of character for what made Nashville and the Fairgrounds so special.

Joan Rubincam

8212 Ramstone Way

Nashville, TN 37013

615/94-5226

From: Erica Zuhr [mailto:elzuhr@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 11:06 AM To: Planning Commissioners
Subject: Support of Mixed Use Development at Fairgrounds
Hello,
I am a District 17 constituent writing to express my support for the mixed use development plan at the fairgrounds.
Thank you for your time,
Erica Zuhr
1808 Hillside Ave

From: Ryan C. Davis [mailto:ryan@ryancdavislaw.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 11:02 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Mixed Use Development at the Fairgrounds

I am resident of Berry Hill and District 17, and I SUPPORT the new mixed use development at the Fairgrounds. It's high time for that property to reflect the quality and caliber of the surrounding neighborhoods.

Thanks,

Ryan Davis

Ryan C. Davis Attorney at Law 1230 2nd Ave S

Nashville, TN 37210 615-649-0110

----Original Message-----

From: Janie Bell [mailto:user@votervoice.net] Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 9:04 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Please support the Major League Soccer stadium

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

Major League Soccer will help Nashville in its quest to become an international city. Please support Major League Soccer and the renovation of the Fairgrounds. This location is ideal for a first class soccer stadium and for our city.

The purpose of this email is to express my support for the proposed Major League Soccer Stadium and renovations to the Fairgrounds Nashville. As a lifelong fan of soccer, and a resident of this amazing city, I couldn't think of better match than Nashville and pro soccer. This city loves its sports teams and adding professional soccer, the world's sport, to our lineup will cement Nashville as a global destination. This stadium has the added benefit of contributing millions of dollars to the fairgrounds, which desperately need renovations to remain the place beloved by many. If you vote yes to this proposal you will be doing your part to protect a place deeply tied to our city's history. It is my belief that a yes vote for the proposal is in the best interest of this city, I hope that you agree.

Thanks for your support!

Sincerely,

Janie Bell 900 20th Ave S Apt 602 Nashville, TN 37212 nashstylin@yahoo.com ----Original Message-----

From: pikegk@aol.com [mailto:pikegk@aol.com] Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 2:54 AM

To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Fairgrounds Uses

It is wrong on so many levels to destroy the fairgrounds after the referendum had 71% of the voters asking the fairgrounds and its events be preserved. That being said the 10 acres being given away to millionaire investors for mixed use development is very,, very wrong. This land is public land owned by the citizens of Nashville and should not be given to a private developer. The fairgrounds and the flea market make money that goes to the city. The private development will generate no income for the city. Only the millionaires that it is being given too. The city can not pay promised raises to police and fire so they have no right to give away city land to private developers. One use of 900 apartments being built will be detrimental to many events at the fairgrounds. 900 apartments are going to need 900 or more parking spaces. Bars right in the middle of land meant for a state fair is wrong. They are trying to cram in more stuff than there is room for and have enough parking for. Traffic going down Wedgewood will be backed up for miles. It is at some flea markets now. Get a soccer game and race or flea market at the same time along with 900 apartments and 200 hotel rooms and you have a traffic disaster and a parking disaster. Residents will be unhappy they can not get out of their driveway. The area was never meant to have as much built on it as they are proposing. The fairgrounds was built for a state fair not mixed use developments. The roads can not be widened because there is housing on each side. Also there is a school across the street from the fairgrounds and a bunch of bars do not need to be built across from the school. The mixed use is bad on all fronts. The only one to benefit will be Ingram. It will not be the people of Nashville who voted in the referendum and no where in the referendum does it saw they want to give away 10 acres of free land. Gayle Pike Sent from my iPad

From: William Smallman [mailto:wsmallman@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 9:51 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Support for fairgrounds Rezone and Development Plan

Please accept this letter of support. I am a nearby property owner and have been committed to community improvement in the neighborhood for over 15 years. I believe this proposal has been long overdue. We have waiting many years to rear town the chain link fence that keeps people out the fair park area. This rezone and accompanying development will be history making. Many years from now, we will look back and see the incremental impact of what one well thought out decision can to to

imporove the quality of life for the entire neighborhood. It might seem like a small step, but the first step is the hardest. It is time to honor the neighborhoods patience. A project of this scale is long overdue. Please approve the rezone.

Regards

William Smallman

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William Smallman

The Magness Group

(615) 424-8776

www.Facebook.com/TheMagnessGroup www.Facebook.com/Rootedin12thS

From: Jason Szychowski [mailto:jaszychowski@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 7:42 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Please support the Major League Soccer stadium

To the members of the Metro Nashville Planning Commission,

I am writing to you to express my support for the proposed Major League Soccer Stadium and Fairgrounds Nashville renovation. The Nashville Fairgrounds is in dire need of upgrades and the millions of proposed dollars injected into this site for improvements, along with the stadium and accompanying development, will transform that entire corridor into one of the most vibrant and economically beneficial areas in the entire city. You have a rare opportunity as an elected official to vote for something that will bring so much joy to all corners of our city, however I would ask that you not only vote for this because of our city's overwhelming desire for professional soccer, but because it make financial sense for our city to invest in Wedgewood-Houston and the fairgrounds as a whole.

No decision will ever satisfy every individual, but for the outcome of a decision to be positive, compromises must be made. I believe that the plan, as presented, is an example of compromises being made to ensure the success of the Wedgewood-Houston area, the Fairgrounds Nashville, MLS Nashville, Metro Nashville and the region.

Thank you,

Jason Szychowski

8121 Lenox Creekside Dr.

Antioch, TN 37013

From: Morton Southall [mailto:southall@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 4:50 PM

To: Planning Commissioners **Subject:** MLS Stadium

Commissioners,

I live in the Wedgewood Houston neighborhood by the Fairgrounds and I support the legislation to rezone a part of the property for affordable housing, community space and more neighborhood services. This is a integral part of the Fairgrounds Improvement Plan. I ask that you vote in favor of the rezoning and community plan amendment.

Thank you,

Morton Southall

507 A Moore Ave 37203

----Original Message-----

From: David Simcox [mailto:dcsimcox@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 4:22 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Please support the Major League Soccer stadium

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

Hello - I support the plans underway for bringing MLS to Nashville and for optimizing metro resources, especially the Fairgrounds.

The purpose of this email is to express my support for the proposed Major League Soccer Stadium and renovations to the Fairgrounds Nashville. As a resident of this amazing city, I couldn't think of better match than Nashville and pro soccer. This city loves its sports teams and adding professional soccer, the world's sport, to our lineup will cement Nashville as a global destination. This stadium has the added benefit of contributing millions of dollars to the fairgrounds, which desperately need renovations to remain the place beloved by many. If you vote yes to this proposal you will be doing your part to protect a place deeply tied to our city's history. It is my belief that a yes vote for the proposal is in the best interest of this city, I hope that you agree.

I am not aware of any other realistic proposals for enhancing the Fairgrounds that compares more favorably than what has been proposed by the Nashville MLS organization.

Sincerely,

David Simcox 434 Sunnyside Dr Nashville, TN 37205 dcsimcox@gmail.com

----Original Message-----

From: Alex Burlason [mailto:alex.burlason@ingram.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 4:27 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Please support the Major League Soccer stadium

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

I am writing to you to express my support for the proposed Major League Soccer Stadium and Fairgrounds Nashville renovation. The Nashville Fairgrounds is in dire need of upgrades and the millions of proposed dollars injected into this site for improvements, along with the stadium and accompanying

development, will transform that entire corridor into one of the most vibrant and economically beneficial areas in the entire city. You have a rare opportunity as an elected official to vote for something that will bring so much joy to all corners of our city, however I would ask that you not only vote for this because of our city's overwhelming desire for professional soccer, but because it make financial sense for our city to invest in Wedgewood-Houston and the fairgrounds as a whole.

Sincerely,

Alex Burlason 1237 Beech Hollow Dr Nashville, TN 37211 alex.burlason@ingram.com

From: Sullivan, Deborah (Planning)
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2018 2:04 PM

To: 'dcBaron.is@gmail.com'; Grider, Anna (Planning)

Subject: 300 Rains

Petition for 300 Rains.

Deborah Sullivan, Planner II

Metro Planning Department

800 2nd Avenue South/PO Box 196300

Nashville, TN 37219-6300

planningstaff@nashville.gov

615-862-7190

(attachment follows)

As a community member, do you think this property is an appropriate place for a mix of uses?

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Date: 7.27.2018

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As a community member, do you think this property is an appropriate place for a mix of uses?

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As a community member, do you think this property is an appropriate place for a mix of uses?

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As a community member, do you think this property is an appropriate place for a mix of uses?

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As a community member, do you think this property is an appropriate place for a mix of uses?

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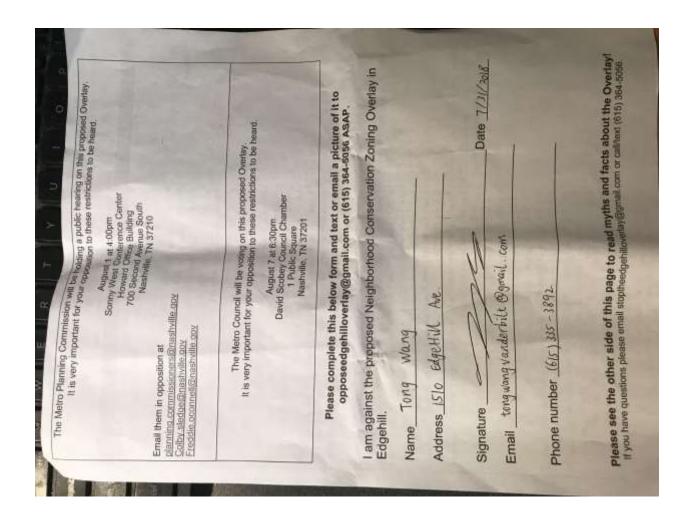
Item 6, Edgehill Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District

From: Edgehill Overlay [mailto:opposeedgehilloverlay@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 11:57 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Opposed To The Edgehill Overlay



From: Cary Gibson [mailto:carygibson@me.com] **Sent:** Wednesday, August 01, 2018 11:23 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: In Support of Edgehill Conservation Overlay: Agenda item 2018NHC-001-001

Dear Planning Commissioners,

As a resident of Edgehill (Disctrict 19) and living in what I understand would be a "contributing" historic property within the proposed overlay boundary, I am writing to offer my **wholehearted support FOR** the proposed Conservation Overlay on the commission's agenda today, as recommended by Metro planning staff.

My primary reasons for support of the overlay are as follows:

Preservation of Edgehill's historic character:

When we speak about the "character" of this neighborhood, we are not simply speaking in architectural terms, but social:

- 1. In the immediate aftermath of the civil war, throughout the Reconstruction period, Jim Crow & segregation era, the civil rights movement, urban renewal and decades of city neglect in its aftermath, Edgehill has shown a remarkable level of resilience and cohesion across racial and economic difference. This history is by no means disconnected from the built environment
- 2. Contributing homes, like my own, were built by founding and early families in Edgehill at a time when they could not get bank loans & in the early 20th century this neighborhood attracted and fostered a thriving community of African American educators, professionals, tradespeople & entrepeneurs.
- 3. Despite being "behind" the de facto segregation lines on 16th Avenue and Wedgewood, Edgehill became an integrated neighborhood both in racial and economic terms. In many ways, our historic homes defy the received understanding of African American history. Where outsiders see the result of Jim Crow and the economic devastation caused by urban renewal, Edgehill quickly became a thriving community of Black entrepreneurship, advancement through education a legacy that has helped hold this community together despite the neglect and marginalization by the city in the decades since.
- 4. As example of what is being lost: the demolition last year of 1021, 15th Avenue South, once the home of Mrs Julia Bell, represents the kind of historic destruction that disturbs us. The rich Black

history of the neighborhood was embodied in that home - not only as an example of historic residential architecture but as a site of social significance with regards to the rising professional class of African Americans in the 20th century, only one generation out of slavery, and particularly the flourishing of Black education at all levels in Nashville.

5. My own home, built by Mr Linus McCord for he and his family to live in, and dated no later than 1930, is still known by long term residents, despite 3 different owners since, as "the McCord house" - a family who have not lived in this property since the 1960s. Their descendants still live on this street and have memories of gatherings on the front porch. This social memory speaks to the intentional design of and integrity in the architecture our historic African American homes represent: this historic neighborhood was built *by* the community, *for* the community.

Negative impacts in the absence of a conservation overlay:

By contrast, lacking the protection of an overlay we have not only seen widespread demolition of historic homes but a very different and poorer type of recent development, which is not only out of contextual scale, but is not appropriate to a residential setting.

A significant number of houses have been built not to function as residential single family dwellings (for which we are zoned) but large short term rental properties. Negative impacts are both social and environmental and I outline 3 major concerns here:

1. Resident population decline

- existing residential owners, who bought their properties in what they understood as a residentially zoned neighborhood are now literally without neighbors
- while the neighborhood has adjusted over the years to a growing student rental population given our proximity to Vanderbilt and Belmont, it should not need to be explained how in a growing city where there are real needs for increased density, allowing residential neighborhoods to be actively depopulated by STRs is a negative impact for the city
 - Depopulation decreases resident stakeholder power in their own neighborhoods
 - it has been well documented in the local press how alienated long term

residents feel as their neighbors are displaced and they find themselves living next to de facto small private hotels

- It runs entirely counter to the Nashville Next guidelines for healthy

communities in which a resident people can age:

- Residents are not made safer nor do they have required support of neighbors as they age if there is literally no one living in the house next door.
- we are already seeing an impact on local schools as the population of resident families decreases

2. Poorly designed new construction & negative environmental impact

While the environmental consequences may seem outside of the purview of the planning commission, they are direct and very real consequences of poor city planning choices.

- Uncontrolled development in the absence of an overlay has seen the building of a style of large dwelling intended for short term rental occupancy by 10-12 paying guests that is not only out of scale and character but exposes the poverty of design in the building being undertaken:
- While it may only be anecdotal reference, it has become commonplace to see waterproofing repairs made to new builds as soon as they are hit by heavy rainfall or a spring storm. Designed with no room left for yard space, a flat, open "party roof" rather than a pitched single roof, it is evident that our more traditional homes are better suited to the climate and weather here in middle Tennessee.
- It would be easy to think that that "cost" of ill conceived design for the context will be paid only by the investor, but the environmental and financial cost of such building extends well beyond the owner:
 - The maximizing of square footage means green yard space has diminished greatly
- This in turn increases rain run off and puts increased strain on Nashville's aging sewer system
 - The reduction of green yard space reduces habitat for wildlife which in turn damages the urban ecosystem
- Destruction of the mature tree canopy and no space afforded to replant reduces natural shade and increases energy use, particularly in the summer.

3. The destruction of the historic character of the neighborhood

The best aspects of our traditional homes - their porches and yards that invite neighbors to know one another and interact from their own doorstep are rapidly being replaced by a very different kind of architecture that is designed for far less habitable, hospitable and integrated community purposes.

- Edgehill thought historically majority African American has long been a racially and economically mixed community and this too is undergoing rapid change - not by accident but because this neighborhood lacks sufficient protection from inappropriate development by non-residential investors

- The neighborhood and the city at large is ill served by a reduction in the number of more modest homes, whether occupied by homeowners or long term renters

Conclusion:

Approval of this overlay presents this historic neighborhood and residential homeowners with guidelines to make sound choices which can help preserve the social and lived environment we want to live in.

I am not against development per se nor against homeowners having choices about their home, but what we are seeing is the active replacement of a residential community and significant changes to the lived environment that will have negative impact not only on the immediate map under your consideration but to Edgehill as a whole, and Nashville as a thriving urban environment.

I urge you to follow the recommendation of your staff and vote in favor of this overlay.

Thank you for your time,

Ms. Cary Gibson

1027 15th Avenue South

Nashville

TN 37212

Sent from my iPad

From: JOHN MOORE [mailto:jwmoore1212@comcast.net]

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 10:15 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Cc: Sledge, Colby (Council Member); O'Connell, Freddie (Council Member)

Subject: Fwd: Opposed to the Edgehill Overlay

To the Metro Planning Commissioners, This email is a resend to copy my council members Sledge and O'Connell. (SEE BELOW)

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

From: JOHN MOORE < jwmoore1212@comcast.net>

To: planning.commissioners@nashville.gov

Date: at

Subject: Opposed to the Edge hill Overlay

To the Commissioners,

I am against the proposed Edgehill Overlay. The majority of our neighbors are against placing these guidelines on our homes. In a survey submitted to our Councilmen, many neighbors were listed as supportive, but they are actually against the proposed Edgehill Overlay. This is wrong. Our repeated offers to jointly canvass the community with representatives from both sides - to confirm an accurate accounting of our neighborhood's preference - was refused by the leadership of those supporting the Overlay. Our opposition also invited those in support to work together for a community consensus, but was also refused.

I remain opposed to the overlay.

Sincerely,

John W.Moore

1010 Villa Place &...

1212 Villa Place

----Original Message-----

From: Sarah Wells [mailto:sarah.kristen.wells@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 7:59 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Vote FOR the Edgehill NCZO

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Sarah Wells and my husband and I live at 908 Bradford Avenue in the 12South area. I was a block captain for the Waverly Belmont NCZO that we as a community worked so hard to achieve. We were and continue to be so thankful that our NCZO was passed.

We spend time in the Edgehill community and have friends that call the area home. Just as it was vital to maintain our community by having a NCZO in place, it is equally important to help preserve and maintain the Edgehill neighborhood.

Please let another neighborhood in Nashville remain stewards to their homes and neighborhood. I urge you to vote FOR the Edgehill Neighborhood Conservation Overlay at the meeting this afternoon.

Thank you so much for your time, Sarah Wells

Sent from my iPhone

From: Emily Greble [mailto:emilygreble@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 4:15 AM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Support for 2018NHC-001-0001/BL2018

Dear Planning Commission:

I tried to send this last week but realize it bounced and am trying again now.

I am writing you with my enthusiastic support of the historic overlay in Edgehill. As a homeowner and mother with children at Eakin public elementary school, I love our local community and our neighborhood's character, and am proud of Edgehill's rich African-American history. I hope to see it sustained. Like so many Edgehill residents, I have been appalled by the tactics and language of the anti-overlay group, which seems to stand against everything our neighborhood community stands for. Some of their scare and intimidation tactics, particularly against our black neighbors, are deeply unethical,

unneighborly, and possibly criminal. People who do not live in our neighborhood and do not respect all Nashvilleans' right to have a history and community might have louder voices, but they should not speak for Edgehill.

Thank you,

Emily Greble 1443 14th Avenue South 914-260-0103

From: Joel Dark [mailto:joelhdark@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 10:30 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Cc: O'Connell, Freddie (Council Member); Sledge, Colby (Council Member)

Subject: support Edgehill Neighborhood Conservation Overlay (2018NHC-001-0001)

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed conservation overlay for the Edgehill neighborhood.

Living in Edgehill since 2002, I have observed a growing recognition of the historical importance of Edgehill, but this has not been accompanied until very recently by meaningful policy decisions protecting this history.

Although it built on important prior work, the Civic Design Center's 2003 Edgehill study marked a significant moment in recognizing Edgehill's importance for Nashville. Its history section began with the simple statement, "Edgehill is one of Nashville's oldest neighborhoods," followed by an overview of the area's antebellum, Civil War, early neighborhood, and urban renewal history.

The 2003 study, prepared with the Organized Neighbors of Edgehill (ONE), identified "the historic residential fabric and the long history as an African-American neighborhood" as a community asset and

suggested, among "plans and programs that reduce the risk of encroachment and gentrification":

"Historic areas of Edgehill (Villa Place) could obtain a Historic Conservation Zoning Overlay to help

prevent the demolition of historic homes. This overlay also governs additions and new construction,

which might not fit the character of the neighborhood."

During the 15 years since the Civic Design Center study, Edgehill's historic importance has continuously

been recognized within and beyond Nashville, but the city has generally not acted to protect this vital

part of its history. Very encouraging recent exceptions include the decision to curate the Greer Stadium area of Fort Negley Park and the unanimous decision of the Metro Council, in an otherwise fraught

budget debate, not to sell city property including the site of William Edmonson's home.

In addition to its other benefits, the proposed conservation overlay is a step to build on these recent

achievements and to bring policy in line with hopes and commitments going back at least as long as I

have lived in Edgehill.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joel Dark

1027 15th Avenue South

From: Amy Malcolm [mailto:amalcolm0123@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 10:25 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: I oppose the Edgehill Overlay

Hello-
I have owned a home at 1506 South Street since 1999. It's a beautiful home from 1890 and I love Edgehill.
Please do not approve the proposed Overlay.
Thank you-
Amy Colton

From: Corey Harkey [mailto:bepharkey@hotmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 9:19 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Edgehill Conservation Overlay SUPPORT

My name is Corey Harkey and I live at 1016 Villa Place, Nashville, TN 37212. I am writing as a resident IN SUPPORT of the Edgehill Conservation Overlay. I have lived in the Edgehill neighborhood with my husband and now children for the past 9 years. We adore our old home which was built in the early 1900s (1913 as best we can find). Anyway, while I appreciate the varying views from my fellow neighbors on this subject, I am strongly in support of the conversation overlay mainly because I do not want to see the older, often historic homes in our neighborhood torn down. I became most interested in the overlay to prevent teardown of older homes after seeing one of the first African American homes in the area torn down a year ago on 15th Avenue. The older early 1900s home/school was torn down before the neighbors were able to rally in its support. The overlay would at least prevent the destruction of these older homes.

Thank you for your consideration,

Corey Harkey

1016 Villa Place

Nashville, TN 37212

----Original Message-----

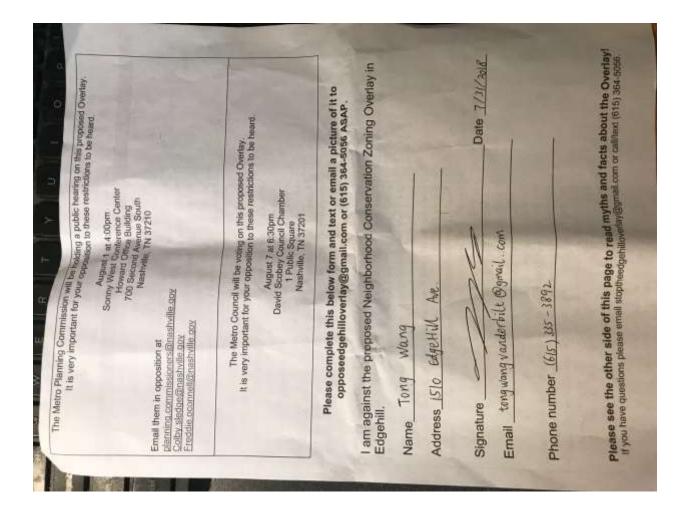
From: Edgehill Overlay Opposition [mailto:edgehilloverlayopposition@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 7:06 PM

To: O'Connell, Freddie (Council Member); Sledge, Colby (Council Member); Planning Commissioners

Subject: 1510 Edgehill Ave opposed to the overlay

Tong Wang 1510 Edgehill Ave



----Original Message-----

From: David Hooper [mailto:hooperdr@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 5:36 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Edgehill Overlay - please protect our neighborhoods!

I like on the edge of Edgehill at 12th and Acklen. I support what the residents of Edgehill are trying to do by putting a conservation overlay in place.

Please protect our residential neighborhood and support residents of Edgehill by allowing them to have a conservation overlay. If the don't protect the historic homes we have left, we'll only be left with massive, boxy structures that don't reflect the history of the neighborhood and hurt affordable housing options.

David Hooper

From: Katherine Dix [mailto:katherine.marie.dix@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 5:08 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Edgehill overlay- including South Street

I live with my three children on South Street. Please include South Street in the conservation overlay to help keep it a nice place to raise my children.

Thank you,

Katherine Dix

1409 South Street

From: Batia Karabel [mailto:batiae@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 4:03 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Strong Opposition to the Edgehill Overlay

I am writing today with my strong opposition to the proposed Edgehill Overlay. Although I am very concerned about the technicalities of the proposal itself, I am even more concerned about the actions and behaviors of those advocating for the Overlay. On numerous occasions, they have provided false and inaccurate information in an effort to mislead long-term, African American

residents of Edgehill. This is unethical and wrong.

Residents opposed to the Overlay were designated as pro-Overlay on lists submitted by advocates in the application process. This is unethical and wrong.

Additionally, tomorrow's hearing was delayed to provide an opportunity for the community to meet to share concerns and find common ground. Every attempt to have a frank dialogue was refused by those promoting the Overlay.

In consideration of these factors, moving forward with this Overlay would be improper.

Thank you for your attention to this.

Sincerely,

Batia Karabel

Edgehill Resident

From: Seth Ogden [mailto:sethogden@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 3:39 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Subject: Agenda Item 2018NHC-001-001

Dear Metro Planning Commissioners,

I write today in support of the Edgehill Neighborhood Conservation Overlay. I support the overlay for three reasons:

- (1) Developers are purchasing single-family historic homes, demolishing them, and replacing them with "tall-and-skinny" duplexes reaching heights of up to 45 feet in our neighborhood. This is happening right now directly behind me on Villa Place. I don't look forward to a party deck overlooking my back yard. This construction is destroying the character of the neighborhood, and the character of the neighborhood was my reason for moving into my home.
- (2) Many, if not the majority, of these duplexes are being used as non-owner-occupied short-term rentals. As you can imagine, the influx of tourists, particularly bachelor and bachelorette parties, is also destroying the character of the neighborhood. Large vehicles with booming music like the Jacked-Up Truck, Off the Wagon, party buses, etc. are now commonplace in our neighborhood at all hours of the day.
- (3) I live in a historic home at 1005 15th Avenue South, set in between two other historic homes. Although the housing boom and developers' willingness to throw up any sort of construction that will turn a profit have purportedly augmented property values, I believe that maintaining the historical character of the neighborhood will, in the long term, result in higher property values. Once Nashville has been saturated with "tall-and-skinnies", neighborhoods governed by a historical overly will be more desirable.

Many in the neighborhood have expressed concerns about the economic hardship associated with the overlay. Recently, a group has been advocating defeat of the overlay so that the overlay guidelines can be rewritten to affirmatively state that non-conforming single-story houses can add a second story. My understanding is that the Commission would permit such additions so long as they conform to the

proportions of surrounding homes. My hope is that the Commission will work with those facing potential economic hardship to find resolutions that remain within the spirit of the overlay guidelines without being overly burdensome.

So long as we, as a community, do not elevate form over fairness, I believe that the loudest concerns of community residents (as opposed to those of developers and non-resident owners) will be addressed.

Best regards,

Seth Ogden

From: Phoenix [mailto:fengwenghub@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 2:35 PM

To: Planning Commissioners; Sledge, Colby (Council Member); O'Connell, Freddie (Council Member)

Subject: Opposed to the Edgehill Overlay.

I am against the proposed Edgehill Overlay. The majority of our neighbors are against placing these guidelines on our homes. In a survey submitted to our Councilmen, many neighbors were listed as supportive, but they are actually against the proposed Edgehill Overlay. This is wrong. Our repeated offers to jointly canvass the community with representatives from both sides - to confirm an accurate accounting of our neighborhood's preference - was refused by the leadership of those supporting the Overlay. Our opposition also invited those in support to work together for a community consensus, but was also refused.

I deeply resent anyone's attempt to limit or remove any of my rights as an American. It truly galls me that anyone thinks they should be able to do so. I find it particularly disturbing that people working in our government agencies would work toward those ends with such persistence that they demand multiple assurances of my position on the subject. At this point, it has reached the appearance of looking for an excuse to disregard a segment of homeowners, even when a clear delineation of opinion has been determined. To be given an opinion that remains unchanged five times and then pretend it doesn't exist if it isn't reiterated on a sixth inquiry smacks of either suspect dis-ingenuousness or a childlike lack of object permanence.

While stating so now appears to have no value, I am opposed to the overlay.

Redundantly, I will be appearing at the August 1st hearing so that I can restate that I remain opposed to the
overlay. Since I'm already arriving with a determined opinion, I will be pondering why we have representative
agents if they need the voting public to gather repeatedly over a single issue in order to settle it.

Sincerely,

Phoenix

1007 Villa Place

Imagination on fire...

From: Alice Rolli [mailto:aliceanna@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 2:22 PM

To: Planning Commissioners

Cc: O'Connell, Freddie (Council Member); Sledge, Colby (Council Member); Henderson, Angie (Council Member); steve.gover@nashville.gov; Cooper, John (Council Member); Gilmore, Erica (Council Member); Gilmore, Erica (Council Member); Shulman, Jim (Council Member); Mendes, Bob (Council Member);

Swope, Robert (Council Member)

Subject: 2018NHC-001-0001/BL2018-1245 -- Support Edgehill Neighborhood Conservation Overlay

Dear Planning Commissioners, Staff:

I have only once before written in, and spoken, on a zoning matter before you. The first time was related to the failed process surrounding the proposed 10X up-zoning for a building in our neighborhood. After laying out the facts, you halted SPs on Music Row for about 18 months to compel staff and developers alike to create a process - and to follow that process. Thank you.

Today I am writing, and plan to speak Thursday, regarding the Conservation Overlay in our neighborhood. 2018NHC-001-0001/BL2018-1245

As a fairly active republican, it may seem strange that I am advocating for an overlay - as, on the surface, it appears to reduce private property rights.
But I am.
Why?
Because the more important principal at play here is advocating for our neighborhood's base zoning - the private property rights I was granted when I purchased my home - as a residential neighborhood.
My rights to retain those property rights are what is at stake here in this vote. I do not want to live in a neighborhood of hotels, without neighbors.
My son attends our neighborhood public school. Because of the rampant development of mini-hotels, this year there are not enough families enrolled and there will be one less kindergarten class. This is a direct result of neighborhood children not attending our school. To be clear, our school (Eakin) has a waiting list for students from outside of our neighborhood zone but because seats are no longer being filled by neighborhood families, it is shrinking.
I have been dismayed at the tactics of the opposition. One young woman claims that she "needs" to make her home larger at some date "for her family to grow here in Edgehill" - this same woman actively promotes her 4 bedroom, 4 bathroom home as "perfect for multi-generational groups of 10 guests!" and "great for groups." She wants the right to make her, residential property, a larger hotel. Not a home.
Another woman opposed to the overlay, told me she runs her AirBB & lives in Brentwood. She literally

didn't know her neighbor, the Grover-Lingle family, who have a 7 year daughter (who also attends our

neighborhood school).

Please protect the property rights of those longtime families, who purchased our homes here, in residential neighborhoods - from the investors who want to "cash in" on the uptick and care little for the long term character of the neighborhood.
Please support the conservation overlay.
Thank you,
Alice Ganier Rolli
1400 Villa Place
Nashville, TN 37212
Alice Rolli
Phone: 202 494 3957
From: ecbmom2@aol.com [mailto:ecbmom2@aol.com] Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 1:52 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Edgehill Overlay
Dear commissioners,
I am writing in regard to the Edgehill Conservation Overlay.

We are opposed to the proposed conservation Overlay in Edgehill. Many resident votes were misrepresented in surveys submitted to the metro council and efforts by the opposition to jointly canvas with their neighbors for the overlay to get an accurate assessment of the neighborhood was denied. This is wrong.
We hope you will recognize that the majority of Edgehill is opposed to this overlay, including our family who lives at 1220 Villa Place.
Sincerely,
Betty Bader
On behalf of 1220 Villa Place
From: ELIZABET Bader [mailto:badercf@comcast.net] Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 1:48 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Edgehill Overlay no
Subject: Edgehill Overlay no
Body:
Dear commissioners,

We are opposed to the proposed conservation Overlay in Edgehill. Many resident votes were misrepresented in surveys submitted to the metro councilmen and efforts by the opposition to jointly canvas with their neighbors for the overlay to get an accurate assessment of the neighborhood was denied. This is wrong.

We hope you will recognize that the majority of Edgehill is opposed to this overlay, including our family who lives at 1220 Villa place.

Sincerely

Charles Bader

On behalf of 1220 Villa