# Item 6: 2019Z-016TX-001— STRP REVOCATION WAITING PERIOD ORDINANCE

From: Omid Yamini [mailto:omid1130@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 9:41 AM To: Planning Commissioners Cc: Henderson, Angie (Council Member); Board of Zoning Appeals (Codes); Council Members Subject: Please SUPPORT 2019Z-016TX-001

Planning Commissioners,

I am writing to ask that you please SUPPORT the text amendment change to our STR regulations that will require a mandatory 1 year revocation of permits for illegal operators.

As the BZA members can confirm, I have spent many hours down there at BZA over the years watching testimony from all sorts of STR operators who ask for leniency from the BZA, and are most often granted it. This needs to stop, and the BZA have no intention of doing so themselves.

In fact, in the attached video you will see a BZA member stating firmly they feel it's up to Metro Council to straighten it out "....it's your ordinance, fix it". Well, the time has come to fix it!

Please SUPPORT 2019Z-016TX-001

Sincerely, Omid Yamini 1204 N. 2nd St Nashville, TN. 37207

#### VIDEO AVAILABLE AT

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\_Llsbg2fl4E&list=PLE64E913EE2902895&in dex=46&t=0s

#### Item 7: 2019Z-017TX-001 – TWO FAMILY DWELLING STRP PERMIT ORDINANCE

From: Allen, Burkley (Council Member) Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 8:05 AM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Item #7 Text Amendment 2019Z-017TX-001 STRP duplex change

Dear Planning Commission members,

#### RE: Item #7 Text Amendment 2019Z-017TX-001

Thanks for your service to this city. I am writing to express concern about the proposed STRP text amendment as it is currently written. I appreciate CM O'Connell's goal of clarifying how STRP permits are applied for duplexes, but I am concerned that this change will result in increased density of STRP properties and large numbers of guests on a single lot. Since those are two of the primary issues with STRPs that have frequently had negative impacts on near-by homes, this result seems counterproductive.

While home-sharing has provided some benefit by filling a need in our booming tourist economy and allowing home-owners to derive additional income from their home, Nashville has sought from the beginning to balance the innovation of home-sharing with protection of the neighborhood. As we have seen unintended consequences of STRP legislation, we have amended the legislation to try to provide better protection to permanent residents. It has been a complicated learning curve. The ultimate goal should be to ensure that residents can rely on Metro's rules to keep their neighborhood a safe and pleasant place to live.

I support the clarification in paragraph E.1.f.i that a duplex owner can be issued an owneroccupied permit for one side of a duplex if he owns both sides and lives in one. I am concerned that paragraph E.1.f.ii, which would allow both sides of a duplex to be issued STRP permits if they are owned by two different owners, who live in each side. This is counter to what we have learned about allowing multiple STRP properties next to each other, and it allows concentration of STRP that is detrimental to the fabric of the neighborhood. I would ask that this paragraph be deleted or modified to reduce impact.

Thanks for your careful consideration of this.

Burkley Allen Metro Council At-Large 615-383-6604 Council Committees - Ad Hoc Affordable Housing - Chair Budget and Finance Public Works

From: Barbra Deck [mailto:67bdeck@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 12:45 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: BL2019-7

Dear Commissioners,

Please oppose bill BL2019-7. This bill would continue to erode available housing for residents in favor of vacation rentals. I have seen several lovely houses

go to an entity from another state and become an AirB&B. And, although I have had no problem with any of the customers staying at the many B&Bs in my neighborhood, I much prefer neighbors.

It is my understanding that there are many permits issued where the owner does not reside on the property. The Codes Department is already struggling with enforcement of owner-occupancy.

Thank you for your work.

Sincerely, Barbra Deck 802 Boscobel Street 37206

From: Claire Armbruster [mailto:clairearmbruster@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 4:39 PM To: Planning Commissioners Cc: Colby Subject: I oppose BL2019 - 7 bill

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I am writing to let you know that I oppose bill **BL2019-7** because it would continue to erode Nashville's housing stock in favor of vacation rentals. The Codes Dept. is already struggling with enforcement of owner-occupancy. There are numerous reports of owner-occupied STR permits being issued to people who do not reside on the property. This bill would add to the many existing enforcement challenges.

We have a duplex on our street that has one side dedicated to vacation rentals. There are various other STRPs in the Waverly Belmont neighborhood (aka 12South). We don't have any problems with the renters but we know all of our neighbors. More vacation rentals means fewer good neighbors.

Many thanks,

Claire Armbruster 1004 Montrose Ave Nashville, TN 37204

From: Mark Riebau [mailto:mark.a.riebau@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 5:39 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: BL2019-7

Short-term Rentals (STR) are ruining neighborhoods and destroying property values because Metro doesn't have the ability or resources to enforce laws dealing with drunkeness, littering or noise complaints. Unless, and until, Metro has the resources to enforce these existing statutes there must be a halt to expanding the STRs in our communities.

Mark Riebau, President West End Lofts II HOA 117 30th Avenue North Nashville, TN 37203

From: Omid Yamini [mailto:omid1130@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 7:27 AM To: Planning Commissioners Cc: Kempf, Lucy (Planning); O'Connell, Freddie (Council Member); Milligan, Lisa (Planning) Subject: Please OPPOSE 2019Z-017TX-001

Planning Commissioners,

I am writing to ask that you please OPPOSE the text amendment to the STR laws in place.

As someone who has been on the front lines of the STR situation the beginning in 2014, I can assure you that from my seat the line in the staff analysis stating that "....Nashville has come to terms with impacts of the use." could not be further from the truth. Nashville and and many of its residents have not "come to terms" with STRs, but continue to struggle to fight a lawless STR industry who cares nothing about their impact on cities and neighborhoods - they exist only to exploit and profit from them. So maybe we have "come to terms" with the impact of the use, and the sentence could've read: "....Nashville has come to terms with impacts of the use - impacts which are often detrimental to neighbors and neighborhoods."

Now, the argument will be that these changes to the text amendment are supposed to be for "owner occupied STRs" - which are often seen as the less offensive of the STR model since they operate under the guise of "Ohhhh, this is the Smith family - they just want to rent out their home while they're away for the weekend!" or "Mr Smith wants to rent out his extra room to supplement his income". However, the staff analysis failed to mention we have MAJOR problems with this type of owner occupied STR too since there are really no guidelines of what "owner occupied" really looks like and no requirements on how long the owner actually has to occupy the property to be considered an occupant! As a result, we have a LOT of "fake owner occupied" STRs operating in Nashville, which I'm sure you could find out about by consulting the Codes Department STR enforcement division.

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Additionally, there has been a continued backlash against AirBnB in our city - now condo building owners are even buying back units from tenants who were using them for straight STR because of the negative impact it was having on their business (see article below). The writing is on the wall: STRs are not something that ANYONE wants to live next to, so please consider this when debating this bill.

Please OPPOSE this bill until further information and analysis can be done, there is no reason to open the door for even more STRs of any type when we are still struggling to deal with enforce the rules on STRs that already exist.

Sincerely, Omid Yamini 1204 N. 2nd St. Nashville, TN. 37207

Project Nos. Text Amendment 2019Z-017TX-001 Project Name Short Term Rental Properties Council Bill No. BL2019-7 Council District Countywide School District Countywide Requested by Councilmember Freddie O'Connell Staff Reviewer Milligan Staff Recommendation Approve.

STAFF ANALYSIS: The regulation of short term rental properties, both owner and not-owner occupied, in Nashville has continued to evolve as the industry has evolved and as Nashville has come to terms with impacts of the use. The current proposal updates an operational standard related to the issuance of owner occupied permits in two-family units and is not related to short term rentals as a land use type. As Item #7 Metro Planning Commission Meeting of 10/24/2019 50 such, Planning Staff believes that the Planning Commission should recommend approval and suggest Metro Council consider the bill on its merits.

To add value, new Midtown apartment buyer ditches Airbnb rentals

Oct 22, 2019, 6:27am CDT Updated: Oct 22, 2019, 7:04am CDT



To boost the reputation of his new Midtown apartment building, <u>Adam Cohen</u> felt he had to get rid of the Airbnb units — so much so that he bought out those tenants so they'd have to leave as soon as possible.

Cohen is founder and managing partner of Spyglass Capital Partners, which just paid \$33.7 million for the Edge Midtown apartment complex at 2200 State St., according to public records. The purchase expands a Nashville portfolio that Spyglass, of New Jersey, began creating last year by paying \$67 million for <u>The Cleo, in East Nashville</u>.

Though Edge Midtown is just 4 years old, Cohen said he saw a lot of "value-add" upside. Most notably, Cohen is aiming to seize that anticipated profit by refocusing on traditional leases, not Airbnbs. His remarks point to the tension those short-term rentals have provoked across the city — at once helping sustain a record-breaking tourism boom and spurt of demand from business travelers, but also causing angst as they proliferated in residential neighborhoods and even existing downtown buildings.

"The property's online reputation suffered when the prior [owner] turned to Airbnb to fill empty units, leading to higher turnover and a much harder time getting folks to lease, given the mixed online reviews," Cohen wrote in an email. "People come to Nashville to party, and occasionally [they] make bad neighbors."

Nashville developer <u>Tony Giarratana</u> and Chicago-based LaSalle Investment Management created Edge Midtown and a sibling apartment building, The Dallas on Elliston, which also opened in 2015.

LaSalle sold the building under the name I&G 2200 State Inc.

In the interview via email, Cohen indicated that Spyglass also purchased The Dallas on Elliston, located at 2110 Elliston Place. "This was 251 units," Cohen wrote of his new Nashville purchase — citing a number that is the combined tally of the apartments at Edge Midtown and The Dallas. No public record has yet been filed regarding The Dallas, though in August, Spyglass registered separate LLCs with Dallas and Edge in the name.

Cohen said Airbnb units were spread throughout the Edge Midtown building. Most building owners who incorporate short-term rentals isolate them to one floor, Cohen said.

Most banks, according to Cohen, won't lend money toward the purchase of an apartment building if short-term rentals comprise more than 5% of the units.

"We bought out a ton of Airbnb tenants to get those [numbers] reduced. So, occupancy is still recovering," Cohen said. He declined to share numbers.

Cohen has reason to be optimistic about the prospects of leasing to traditional renters.

Job growth was happening when Giarratana built Edge Midtown, but not at the scale of what's happening today (and, most AllianceBernstein and Amazon jobs have not yet shown up).

At the time, Giarratana also faced much stiffer competition for renters, as a number of other developers scrambled to open buildings in the same window. That led to a time period where many owners of urban buildings were giving away a month or two of free rent, and other sweeteners, to entice people to sign leases.

As Cohen noted, demand is again catching up with supply. A year ago, he said, all downtown rental buildings were offering such "concessions." That roster had whittled to less than half when Spyglass signed a purchase contract for Edge Midtown.

Similarly, Cohen said few buildings are offering deals to existing renters so they'll renew their lease. Most building owners are starting to push rent higher on renewals as they become less worried their current renters will be able to shop for a better deal, Cohen said.

#### From: Pam Swoner MG [mailto:connectingtngardeners@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 9:47 AM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Vote NO , CM O'Connell's proposed ordinance, BL-2019-7

This ordinance is taking Nashville in the wrong direction. We are becoming a city of commercially owned housing which is leading to lower home ownership and higher rents.

Planning for the future of Nashville residents should be a priority and include protecting the rights of current home owners from commercial uses in their neighborhoods. Tourists do not contribute to the unity and safety of our communities.

Please stand for the residents of Nashville and close the door on corporate investors. There are so many loop holes now, approving this ordinance only makes more problems.

I'm asking you to vote NO to CM O'Connell's proposed ordinance, BL-2019-7.

#### Thank you,

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Pam Swoner 5917 Colchester Dr Hermitage, TN 37076

From: Trish Bolian [mailto:tmbolian@comcast.net] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 10:12 AM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: BL2019-7 VOTE NO

On today's agenda there is yet another bill re Short Term Rentals in Nashville neighborhoods.

Please vote NO on this matter. Nashville is awash with short term rentals in our neighborhoods directly affecting every aspect of neighborhoods from noise to traffic to transient people now being part of the constant flow in neighborhoods.

We have been around and around this issue for years. Neighborhoods in every available forum have made their wishes known that we do not want nor can we as a city continue to allow this type of use in our neighborhoods without solid controls and restrictions. We do not have adequate code enforcement and police enforcement of noise, etc. is understandably very low on their prioritization of their calls.

This bill further complicates things by involving areas zoned or grandfathered for duplexes. Already huge problem exist with duplexes as permitted over the years be too close together even to address basic maintenance issues. As a city we just voted in a mayor who is committed to protect Nashville neighborhoods because every neighborhood is struggling. Can our planning processes now begin once more as was done in years past to actively support Nashville neighborhoods and minimize changes that constantly erode the quality of life in them.

Please voted NO on this bill.

Thank you,

Trish Bolian 6002 Hickory Valley Rd. Nashville, TN 37205

#### Item 9: 2019S-198-001 - 542 CROLEY DRIVE

From: Cathy Denton [mailto:itsmeccd@comcast.net] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 1:03 PM To: Planning Staff Subject: 542 Croley Dr 37209

Please accept this email in support of the Thomas & Gladys Horton estate, 542 Croley Dr, 37209 to be sold as 2 separate parcels. It's large enough to be sold as 2. Thx you for hopefully allowing this.

Cathy Denton 537 Croley Dr 37209

From: chuck@traviselectric.com [mailto:chuck@traviselectric.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 1:45 PM To: Planning Staff Subject: Opposition Letter

Planning Staff

As a representative of the James Robertson Neighborhood Association I have attached our opposition letter to case # 2019S-198-001 if there are any questions I can be reached at this email account or at 615-385-0250 This will be contested at the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>

Chuck Smith

#### SEE ATTACHMENT ON FOLLOWING PAGE

From: Paul Paul [mailto:28pld@comcast.net] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 7:55 PM To: Planning Staff Subject: NO THANK YOU!! CROLEY - Bill Number 2019S198-001

I vote NO!!!!

THEY ARE SQUEEZING THESE HOMES INTO THIS AREA AND WE DO NOT APPRECIATE THE TIGHT SPACES AND THE PARKING ON THE STREETS. IN THE EVENINGS COMING HOME, YOU CAN BARELY GET THROUGH. ITS TOO MUCH!!

#### PLEASE VOTE NO!

From: JAMES MARTIN [mailto:jameslmartin@comcast.net] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 5:59 PM To: Planning Staff Subject: case 2019S-198-001

#### James Robertson Neighborhood Association

**Attention: Planning Commission** 

Case: 2019S-198-001

The James Robertson Neighborhood Association has reviewed the petition before the Planning Commission to re-subdivide 542 Croley. After reviewing the documents, the association has unanimously voted to oppose this change. There are a couple of reason for this opposition. The first reason is that the plot is in what is considered a maintaining neighborhood. Under the Nashville Next Plan, a maintaining neighborhood meant that it would retain the same appearance and to some degree density. This does not offer the higher density that an evolving zone would allow. They put this in the Nashville Next to protect a portion of our neighborhoods. We are still having to allow the infill directive to continue which in itself will double the density over time. The second reason for our opposition is that our community has been fortunate in that we are able to look at what has happened in other neighborhoods and hopefully learn from their mistakes. Parking has been the biggest issue as it relates to these types of developments. We have already experienced localized problems that are 100% a byproduct of this type of density. With the current minimum parking requirement per unit for residential development. This it will continue to be a problem for all communities across Nashville. The James Robertson Neighborhood Association is asking that you not approve this petition

Sincerely Chuck Smith President of JRNA

Dear Panning Staff,

As a member of the James Robertson Neighborhood Association and a lifetime resident of West Nashville I would like to voice my opposition to the subdividing of the property located at 542 Croley Drive. This is one of the development issues we in Nashville are continually faced with where as the developers try to put as many houses on a piece of property as they can get away with. In this case four houses would be replacing one just like several other developments in the neighborhood. This neighborhood is not in the evolving planning sector of Nashville and these kind of projects do not appear to fit the rules of maintaining the area. This development as requested would only create another site where there is not enough parking for the size and number of houses being built and vehicles parked in the street all the time adding to the traffic and safety problems we are experiencing all over the city. This also adds to the extra work put on our public servants, utilities and mail carriers etc.

From: Brian Sullivan [mailto:brianleesullivan@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 2:04 AM To: Planning Staff Subject: Case Number 2019S-198-001

Dear Planning Commission Members:

I am writing to voice my support for the petition of Genetta Lafferty and Thomas Horton to subdivide their late parents' real estate parcel at 542 Croley Drive.

I know the owners well, and they have been made a fair offer on their property. The lot is sized properly to accommodate four houses, but due to its shape and the fact that the lot was not initially subdivided in the original neighborhood plan from the 1940s, this family has had to battle a great number of challenges to allow the sale of the property for what it's actually worth.

The Croleywood neighborhood is changing for the better. The new homes being built in the area are attractive, affordable, and preserve the spirit of the original development: ideal homes for working-class families.

By allowing this subdivision, justice will be served on all fronts: the family will get the money the property is worth, the street will get lots that are more in keeping with the surrounding area, and four Nashville families will get new houses with an immediate sense of community—this is the spirit of what the planning commission protects.

I strongly encourage the commission to grant this request.

Thank you,

Brian Sullivan 925 Cayce Dr. Madison, TN 37115

From: Carrie Lowery [mailto:carrielowery@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 2:08 AM To: Planning Staff Subject: Case Number 2019S-198-001

Dear members of the planning commission:

I am writing in support of the Horton family's request to subdivide their family property at 542 Croley Drive.

I am an attorney and a friend of the owners, and I live in West Nashville, out Charlotte Pike. The late Mr. & Mrs. Horton welcomed me like a part of their family, and we often spoke of how the home they had invested so much in was the only legacy they would pass on to their heirs.

The property is very desirable for the kind of development that is revitalizing that neighborhood. As those postwar homes age and fall into disrepair, it is natural that they would be replaced by modern structures. Similar lovely new homes have been built recently on their street and in the surrounding neighborhood, on comparably sized lots to those the Hortons will hard once their subdivision is approved.

This wonderful family has faced great adversity in the last few years, and to see them unjustly deprived of all the funds their property commands would be a terrible shame. I urge the commission to approve this simple request, and let the Hortons move on with their lives.

Sincerely,

Carrie Lowery 1757 Haleys Hope Court Nashville, TN 37209

From: Nannette Clark [mailto:atty4kids@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 2:40 AM To: Planning Staff Subject: 542 Croley

Members of the Planning Staff,

I am writing concerning the property at 542 Croley Drive, Nashville, TN. This property belonged to the parents of my friends, Thomas Horton and Genetta Lafferty.

The James Robertson Neighborhood Association is trying to block the variance they need from the planning commission to have their parents' property subdivided. Under the original 1947 plan for the neighborhood, 542 Croley is the only one of its size and was sold as a single oversize lot because of its wedge shape. It is double the size of all the other original lots in the neighborhood plan.

The James Robertson Neighborhood Association wants to block their subdivision of the lot while subdividing this lot will simply bring it in line with the other R8 lots in the neighborhood: changing it from a single .43-acre lot to two .21 acre lots, in essence, like all the others.

If this variance falls through, the offer on the property value plummets from \$390K to \$190K. I would hate to think that as a property owner in Davidson County, a "random neighborhood association" with no legal standing, no interest, and no reason to oppose the variance could cause them to loose \$200,000 because they have arbitrarily decided there should be "no new builds." These people do not even live in the specified notification zone. These are older homes from a less desireable neighbornhood. These are not historic homes. Allowing a builder to subdivide and build new homes improves the value and desirablity of the nearby homes.

Please allow Ms. Lafferty and Mr. Horton the variance needed to maintain the higher property value for 542 Croley.

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Nannette Clark Attorney at Law P.O. Box 25 Whites Creek, TN 37189 615-715-9388 Supreme Court Rule 31 Listed Mediator atty4kids@gmail.com

From: Ruth Capps [mailto:ruthc546@icloud.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 7:58 AM To: Planning Staff Subject: 2019 s-198-001

My name is Ruth Capps and I live at 546 Croley Drive and I support dividing land next door to me at 542 Croley Drive

From: Nannette Clark [mailto:atty4kids@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 2:40 AM To: Planning Staff Subject: 542 Croley

Members of the Planning Staff,

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The James Robertson Neighborhood Association is trying to block the variance they need from the planning commission to have their parents' property subdivided. Under the original 1947 plan for the neighborhood, 542 Croley is the only one of its size and was sold as a single oversize lot because of its wedge shape. It is double the size of all the other original lots in the neighborhood plan.

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Please allow Ms. Lafferty and Mr. Horton the variance needed to maintain the higher property value for 542 Croley.

--

Nannette Clark Attorney at Law P.O. Box 25 Whites Creek, TN 37189 615-715-9388 Supreme Court Rule 31 Listed Mediator atty4kids@gmail.com

From: Smith, Julia M [mailto:julie.smith@vumc.org] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 9:39 AM To: Planning Staff Subject: Opposition letter for Planning Commission

#### Planning Commission:

*I am writing as a member of the James Robertson Neighborhood Association regarding case # 2019S-198-001. This property is located at 542 Croley Ave.* 

I wanted to let you know that I oppose the sub-division of this property. The owner came to one of our meetings about a year ago and proposed this and the Association turned them down. Now it feels like because they couldn't get their way, they are trying to go around us.

*I personally am opposed to this because of several reasons:* 

- 1. This property is in a <u>maintaining</u> part of West Nashville and I do not want to have any more homes than are approved by their current zoning. I believe if we did this for one person then the other developers would follow suit.
- 2. I do not think this corner lot would be suitable for a sub division. Parking would be an issue and I am already opposed to the cars parking on the streets.

I was born and raised in West Nashville, I have enjoyed seeing some of the changes, but we have now reached a limit where developers just want to put as many homes as they can on a parcel just because they can, they don't care how it affects the neighborhood or the traffic. I would appreciate you accepting this letter in opposition of the subdivision on lot # 40.

Thank you, Julie

Julie Smith Assistant to the Chair Ronald D. Alvarez, M.D., M.B.A. Professor, Chairman & Clinical Service Chief Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology R 1217 MCN, Nashville, TN 37232-2521 Phone# 615-322-3020 Fax # 615-343-8806 Email: julie.smith@vumc.org

From: Loy Carney [mailto:Loy@rudytitle.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 10:08 AM To: Planning Commissioners; Dunnavant, Joren (Planning) Cc: Planning Staff Subject: 10/24 - Item 9 - Final Plat 2019S-198-001

Members and Staff of the Metropolitan Planning Commission,

I have attached materials related to the above referenced Final Plat, respectfully submitted for your consideration at the October 24 regular meeting. I will also bring 14 copies for distribution at the meeting.

Mr. Dunnivant, thank you for your thoughtful analysis of the project in your staff report. At the conclusion of your report to the Commission, I would like to use the attachment for presentation, and I will bring a USB drive containing the materials. Thanks for any help you can provide with that effort.

Regards,

#### Loy Carney | Attorney at Law Rudy Title & Escrow, LLC 2012 21st Avenue South | Nashville, TN 37212 615-383-2903 | Dir 615-620-3546 | Fax 615-383-2412 Loy@RudyTitle.com | www.RudyTitle.com

From: Ag [mailto:lainie1619@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 10:44 AM

To: Planning Staff Subject: Case number 2019S-198-001

Ladies and gentlemen:

I own a home on 634 American Road in West Nashville just a few streets over from the Horton property. I know this family has done everything by the book and it is very disturbing to me that arbitrarily angry people from a group with no legal standing, who are completely unaffected by this subdivision request, have mounted such a vehement campaign to stand in its way.

It worries me as a Nashville taxpayer that I could be working so hard to take care of my property to pass on to my son, and the same meddling could keep him from getting the full market value of my house after I'm gone.

I urge the planning commission to grant the Horton family's request to subdivide their property and make it harmonious with the other parcels on their street.

Sincerely, Alaina Gonzalez

#### Item 15: 2019M-032AG-001 – ROSE PARK

From: A R Lane [mailto:arlene.one10@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 12:28 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Opposition to 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019-11)

To: Nashville Planning Commissioners
From: Arlene R. Lane
Re: Opposition to 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019-11)
Date: 10/23/19

Dear Commissioners,

I am a very, very longtime resident of the Edgehill area and the past director of two different social service agencies located directly across the street from E.S. Rose Park and Rose Park Magnet School. In addition, I am a parent of a former Rose Park School student. I am vehemently opposed to Belmont University, a for-profit, religious institution, (with a history of known biases towards some residents) building a 2 story building on Public School Property (which is already very cramped for outside activity space, due in part to Belmont's takeover of E.S. Rose Park).

Public land, both Metro Parks and Metro Schools, is paid for by the taxpayers, and it is for the use of the general public, not for a private institution wanting to build a 2 story building on school property, with a contract that expressly prohibits public use of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, and thus that (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) space will not serve either the educational or recreational needs of MNPS students, or the Edgehill residents. Also, the scheduled use of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor will be determined by Belmont, not Rose Park School or Metro Schools, again putting a limit on public use.

If this lease is approved, it will set a terrible precedent. It will allow any public land to be leased below market value with the lessee controlling terms of use and access.

Please do not approve this lease request.

Thank you.

Arlene R. Lane 911 Benton Avenue Nashville, TN 37204

From: Cary Gibson [mailto:carygibson@me.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 12:37 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: OPPOSITION to 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019-11)

As an Edgehill resident of almost nine years to date on 15th Ave South, in District 19, just a few blocks from Rose Park School, I am writing to express my strong opposition to this item on your upcoming agenda.

Our community has a great many economic and social needs, especially for our children and youth but this private athletics facility is a highly unusual and inappropriate response to those very real needs. Belmont Univ., despite it public claims to want to philanthropically provide for local disadvantaged children, has not provided anything in this community for which it did not expect ongoing reciprocal loyalty to serve their intent to expand beyond their campus boundaries.

In addition to my deep concern over the continued and persistent attempts by Belmont Univ. to conceal and obscure their intent to the community, the Parks Board, the BZA and now MNPS School Board, and my concerns over the environmental and social consequences of Metro having replaced public land that was intended for free public recreation space at Rose Park with Belmont athletics fields and stadium, I write to raise the following specific objections to any approval:

That Metro government would consider handing over yet more public property for the benefit of a private institution is as alarming as it is fiscally irresponsible. The 2nd floor of the proposed athletics facility (which I note is already under construction without council approval) is designed and intended for Belmont's exclusive use. Public land should not be for the exclusive benefit of any private institution.

Further, the contract expressly prohibits public use of that 2nd floor and therefore cannot and will not serve the education or recreational needs of MNPS students, which is required for approval.

It is clear that any approval of this privately controlled athletics facility is not consistent with appropriate land use for Nashville tax payers since it would mean Metro's own policy of non-discrimination would cede to Belmont's discriminatory hiring practices.

If this lease is approved, it sends a clear and alarming message to anyone in Nashville like myself that does not religiously identify with the narrow and discriminatory terms of Belmont's hiring policy. That would set a very poor precedent for a city as diverse as our own.

Sincerely, Ms. Carolyn Gibson 1027 15th Ave S. Nashville TN 37212

From: V Rogan [mailto:vrogan5@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 1:58 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Opposition to Belmont U Land Use at Rose Park

Dear Commissioners,

re: Oppose 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019-11)

Please do not support the proposed lease amendment in its current form. While there are numerous egregious issues with the lease amendment, I want to draw your attention to a serious land use problem.

The 2nd floor of this proposed building violates proper land use on the following grounds:

- 1. The 2nd floor will be for a private institution's <u>exclusive</u> use. There is no public access. Public land should not be for the exclusive benefit of a private institution.
- 2. The 2nd floor will <u>not serve the education or recreational needs</u> of MNPS students as the amendment expressly excludes public use.
- 3. The Metro Nashville Government and MNPS do not <u>discriminate on the basis of religion</u>. Private religious institutions can and do. Religious discrimination on MNPS property is an improper use of public land.

While I can see the benefit of access to an indoor batting facility for MNPS students, there's no such benefit obtained through private offices for Belmont University staff.

Please do not support the current version of the bill that gives control and exclusive use of MNPS property to a private institution. Public land should remain public and available to the public.

Thank you. Virginia Rogan

From: Landers, Jane J [mailto:jane.l.landers@Vanderbilt.Edu] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 2:25 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Saving ES Rose Park

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

I am out of the country and unable to attend the meeting, but as an historian of Nashville and its African American community and as the US Member of the UNESCO Slave Route Project, I made a presentation before you to protect Ft. Negley and you did. I call on you now to do the same for another important site for the African American history of Nashville and one that should not be developed for the sports needs of a private religious institution. I strongly urge you to save ES Rose Park for the community.

Jane Landers Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor Department of History Vanderbilt University

2301 Vanderbilt Place Nashville, TN 37235-1802 tel: (615) 322-3403; fax: (615) 343-6002 Director, Slave Societies Digital Archive https://slavesocieties.org

Member UNESCO International Scientific Committee for the Slave Route Project: "Resistance, Liberty and Heritage," <u>http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/dialogue/the-slave-route/</u>

From: wsdelphico [mailto:wsdelphico@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 2:26 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Batting Cage Approval at Rose Park

I am writing you in support of one of the most successful public/private partnerships to have developed in Metro Nashville: the collaboration of Metro Parks, Metro Schools and Belmont University.

Yes I am an unabashed advocate for youth baseball, and yes I have lived in Nashville generally and Edgehill particularly long enough to remember when Rose Park featured robust little league, Babe Ruth league and Pony league offerings in this regard. And yes I fondly recall when gangs were organized around bats and balls instead of pistols and bullets.

The parents of many of our neighborhood youth lack the resources that are available to many of the well healed programs supported by the substantial incomes of parents and others in other programs. Belmont has stepped into this void and has made it possible for baseball to return to the inner city as well as sports never before available.

Athletics enjoys a symbiotic relationship with educational attainment. Statistically access to the field and class room performance are positively linked. Let's not break them apart.

Sincerely,

Walter T. Searcy, III, JD 1029 Villa Place Nashville, TN 37212 (615) 294-3426 (m)

From: Calvin Kimbrough [mailto:CalvinKimbrough@bellsouth.net] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 2:41 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Opposition to 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019-11)

#### Dear Commissioners:

We am writing in opposition to the grant of an easement on the MNPS property "occupied by the Rose Park Magnet Middle School" to permit the erection of a 2-story "batting cage" for the practically exclusive use of Belmont University. Among the many objections that I have to this change in land use is that it sets an untenable precedent for exchanging public land at far less than its fair market value to a private institution. If Belmont is permitted to erect and control a building on the public land in question for its own use for an extremely protracted period of time — 50 years — what is to prohibit other similarly situated institutions from using the easement granted under this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as a springboard for seeking to expand their "campuses" in a similar manner.

Our second concern is that the second floor of the planned structure violates public land use policy in that it will be almost completely, if not, exclusively occupied by Belmont, a private institution. It appears that youth school and recreational teams may have some access to the actual batting cage on the ground floor for skills practice, but will not have use of the upper floor.

There is a need for better plan for the scholarships to be granted under the terms of the MOU. Belmont University could and should be doing much more to ensure that students are able to qualify for these scholarships through tutoring or other academic assistance for students from Carte-Lawrence Elementary and Rosa Parks Middle School. Belmont clearly has an excellent mechanism for providing this in kind value. It also remains unclear how many such scholarships have actually been provided to youth residing in Edgehill since the origination of the lease.

There is also a provision in the new MOU that says the annual payment of \$35,000.00 to support the "extended learning site" at Rose Park (whatever that actually means) will be reduced to \$20,000.00 if Metro adopts an operating budget that includes funding for Saturday operating hours at one or more of Metro's neighborhood park community centers. The described possible Metro funding is not specific to the Rose Park neighborhood community center, which is, of course, the specific recipient of the University's annual payment. In addition, there is no escalator clause for the annual payment during the term of the 50 year lease — a period of time during which the value of the easement can soar. Public land continues to be turned over to this private institution for much less than its real value. Despite the lack of parity in the agreement, the MOU permits Belmont to determine the organization which should receive the funding — RBI baseball, a citywide organization. It is odd that this organization is earmarked to receive funds despite the fact that the Edgehill community in which the Park and Schools that are the subjects of the MOU, has not yet had the opportunity to consider this matter publicly. A great deal of final negotiating and execution of agreements has already taken place, although no input from the community has been sought until now, well after the fact.

We ask your careful consideration of what is being done in these transactions and, as persons charged with land use regulation in Metro, carefully consider voting to oppose this distortion of the City's land use policy. We am sure that that you have the same interest as the Edgehill community and other neighborhoods in preserving our public land, especially, the green spaces that provide an irreplaceable amenity in any neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Nelia and Calvin Kimbrough 1900 Acklen Avenue #904 Nashville, TN 37212

From: cindy devin [mailto:cindydevin57@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 2:54 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Re: Oppose 2019M-032AG=001 (BL2019-11)

#### Dear Commissioners,

Please do not support the proposed lease amendment in its current form. While there are numerous egregious issues with the lease amendment, I want to draw your attention to a serious land use problem.

The 2nd floor of this proposed building violates proper land use on the following grounds:

- 1. The 2nd floor will be for a private institution's <u>exclusive</u> use. There is no public access. Public land should not be for the exclusive benefit of a private institution.
- 2. The 2nd floor will <u>not serve the education or recreational needs</u> of MNPS students as the amendment expressly excludes public use.
- 3. The Metro Nashville Government and MNPS do not <u>discriminate on the basis of religion</u>. Private religious institutions can and do. Religious discrimination on MNPS property is an improper use of public land.

While I can see the benefit of access to an indoor batting facility for MNPS students, there's no such benefit obtained through private offices for Belmont University staff.

Please do not support the current version of the bill that gives control and exclusive use of MNPS property to a private religious institution.

Cindy Devin Edgehill Resident

From: Attorney Larry Woods [mailto:debate@comcast.net] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 3:25 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Opposition to Belmont Univ land use #2019M 032AG 001 (BL2019-11)

#### **Dear Planning Commission**

As a Metro Schools parent and volunteer in the schools who is very interested in the goals and success of our Metro students I am writing to state my strong opposition to the proposed building by Belmont University on the land at Rose Park Magnet School. I am very familiar with the resources and uses of programs for Nashville students since I have organized middle school and high school debate teams at many Metro schools (Pearl-Cohn, Overton, Meigs, Head, M.L.King Magnet, Hume Fogg Magnet) for more than 30 years. I was also a co-founder of the Urban Debate League in Nashville for middle schools. In carrying out these programs,I have made presentations in almost every middle school and high school in Nashville to the students and then worked with the students to determine their interests and needs.

In my opinion, the last thing these schools and their students need is more immersion in sports and sports administration such as proposed by Belmont. The proposed interaction is a false hope focus from beginning to end. The last thing we should be telling our school children is they can make a living in sports and its allied occupations. This has long been a myth that has been pushed primarily to at risk students, students from low income families, and schools in urban areas. We should be bringing engineering, law, medicine, science and other similar programs and opportunities to the Rose Park and other students.

But instead the Belmont proposal is aimed at the idea that almost all children enjoy sports and will benefit from more of it. In a great city like Nashville we need every agency to create opportunities to help students excel in professional/executive employment trends and not just say sports are good for kids.

Also, I oppose the Belmont proposal because as Mayor Cooper argued strongly in his winning campaign, Metro must stop giving away land and the use of land to private parties for less than their true value. This Belmont idea is exactly what Mayor Cooper intends to stop.

Sincerely,

ATTORNEY LARRY D. WOODS Debate@comcast.net 615.383.6555

From: Jason Rogers [mailto:jason.rogers@belmont.edu] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 4:14 PM To: Planning Commissioners; Milligan, Lisa (Planning) Cc: Cathey, Eben (Planning) Subject: Mandatory Referral

Good afternoon,

I attach materials related to the MNPS/Belmont University agenda item for tomorrow's Planning Commission Meeting.

Thank you,

Jason Rogers Vice President for Administration and University Counsel Belmont University

#### SEE ATTACHMENT ON FOLLOWING PAGE

From: Katherine Stephenson [mailto:kks1973@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 4:27 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Opposition to 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019-11)

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in opposition to 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019-11). This land that Belmont is proposing to use belongs to MNPS and is specifically for use by Rose Park Middle. My child attends RP and it's hard to ignore the fact that Belmont is gobbling up all of the free green space around our school. Even though the neighborhood/school has access to the Belmont fields, these cannot be used for free play.

The park is public land and should be used by the public. Not by a private institution. Especially one that can discriminate against religious affiliations. I understand that Belmont says RP will have access to a classroom to learn about sports. In my opinion, it's not enough. Give the kids free space to run and play. They don't need another indoor classroom.

As Nashville grows, we need to focus on those who don't have a voice. I can hear Belmont screaming, bullying the neighborhood and the students. Please help us by opposing this lease of public land to Belmont.

Sincerely,

Katherine Stephenson 1927 20th Ave S. 37212



1900 Belmont Boulevard Nashville, TN 37212-3757

p 615 460 6793 f 615.460 5555 October 23, 2019

Metro Planning Commission 700 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN 37210

Dear Members of the Metro Planning Commission:

You have before you a mandatory referral concerning a collaboration between Metro Nashville Public Schools and Belmont University to build an indoor batting practice facility on the property of Rose Park Magnet Math and Science Middle School. The facility will be owned by Metro Nashville Public Schools and shared by MNPS, nonprofit organization RBI, Inc., and Belmont University and will provide educational and mentoring opportunities for the children at Rose Park Middle School and other children in the Nashville community. As such, the use of this MNPS owned facility on MNPS owned property is consistent with community education uses for the children of Nashville.

For the past two and a half years Metro Nashville Public Schools, Belmont, and the Metro Nashville Parks and Recreation Department have been engaged in discussions about a batting facility at Rose Park. These discussions were prompted by Metro Parks' announcement in early 2017 that the batting practice facility constructed by Belmont in 2003 at Greer Stadium for use by Belmont and the Nashville Sounds would be torn down when the stadium was removed. The discussions included six meetings between Belmont representatives and a group representing concerned neighbors facilitated by council member Colby Sledge. In addition, Councilman Sledge hosted three community-wide meetings to provide information about a proposed new batting facility at Rose Park. Over the past two years, three different sites for the facility on Metro Parks' property within Rose Park have been discussed and in that time two different sites were approved by the Metro Parks Board. Yet, the concerns of a few vocal community members persisted and Belmont withheld beginning construction in a good faith attempt to address the concerns.

Last fall MNPS officials approached Belmont about locating the facility on Rose Park Middle School property rather than the E.S. Rose Park property and the opportunities such a facility would create for the students at Rose Park and the community. In late November, the Board of Public Education approved an agreement for the facility to be located adjacent to the school and grading work commenced on that site in late June, 2019. Belmont University is fully funding the construction of the building which will be the property of MNPS and will be operated by Belmont for the benefit of MNPS' teams and teams associated with MNPS' Extended Learning Site (after school enrichment program) at Rose Park as well as Belmont teams and Major League Baseball's RBI Program (a nonprofit dedicated to giving children who live in the inner city the opportunity to play baseball and softball). As the batting facility will be adjacent to E.S. Rose Park, the baseball and softball venue that Metro Parks and the neighborhood share with Belmont, the location is ideal. Furthermore, MNPS desires a partnership with Belmont at this location so that it may implement MNPS sports programs at the facility to pilot a physical health component of its afterschool program.

According the agreement between MNPS and Belmont, scheduling staff and supervision of the batting facility will be provided by Belmont as well as shared office space for Belmont's building supervisor and RBI/MNPS staff. In addition, Belmont will provide funding to support this initiative in the amount of \$35,000 a year which will enable Metro Parks to meet the request of Edgehill neighbors to maintain Saturday operating hours for the Easley Center.

Over the past 12 years Belmont University has invested \$13,016,525 in the athletic facilities at E.S. Rose Park on Parks Board property. The investment includes the cost of the improvements, annual payments to the Parks Department and the Parent Teacher Organizations of Carter Lawrence Elementary and Rose Park Math and Science Academic Magnet Middle School, maintenance and operation of the improvements, and at least \$1,795,981 in Belmont University college scholarships to graduates of MNPS schools who live in the area. And just like the collaboration between Belmont University and the Metro Nashville Board of Parks and Recreation, the completion of the batting practice facility will benefit all parties involved: the community, MNPS, Belmont and most importantly the young people who attend our public schools. The students of both MNPS and Belmont will refine their skills in a facility that is unmatched anywhere in Metro and will learn from each other through the programs that bring them together. Belmont University looks forward to working with Metro Nashville Public Schools and the community to make the batting facility at Rose Park Middle School a success.

The following persons are authorized to speak on behalf of Belmont University on this matter at the Planning Commission's meeting: Jason Rogers, Joyce Searcy and Doug Sloan.

On Thursday October 24, please vote to approve the use of Rose Park Middle School site for these purposes.

Bob Fishen

Robert C. Fisher President

#### Carter-Lawrence Elementary Math and Science Magnet School

1118 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. South Nashville, TN 37203 P: 615-291-7333 F:615-291-7323



October 22, 2019

Metro Planning Commission 700 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN 37210

Dear Planning Commission Members:

Carter Lawrence Elementary Magnet School is located on the corner of Edgehill Avenue and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. Many of our students already participate in the afterschool program at Metro Parks and Recreation's Easley Center, the community center located in Rose Park. Because the park is adjacent to Carter Lawrence Elementary, we also utilize the sports complex at Rose Park as a part of our daily programming.

Children at Rose Park Elementary, as well as the children who are residents of Edgehill, will be offered the opportunity to be a part of the enrichment program being planned for our community by Metro Nashville Public Schools. Carter Lawrence, a partner in the program, is intended to be the place where dance will be taught to kids who choose that option. We have also planned for the children who choose baseball as their option for the enrichment component's health component to learn the rules of the game and have the opportunity to batting training at the batting facility, which we hope will be at Rose Park Middle School, also adjacent to the park.

Educators know that academic performance improves with aerobic activity because it helps stimulate neuron growth in the area of the brain that handles learning and memory. This transfers to better academic performance. So sports is an educational activity. We want our children to have use of the batting facility to be shared by Metro Schools, Metro Parks, non-profit baseball teams, and Belmont University. Thus, we urge you to vote to build the batting facility at Rose Park Middle Magnet School.

Cordially,

Sherleta landers

Sherleta Sanders Executive Principal and Chief Energy Officer Carter Lawrence Elementary Magnet School



October 22, 2019

The Metropolitan Planning Commission 700 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN 37210

Dear Members of the Commission:

I am a member of the team, in collaboration with Metro Parks, planning a comprehensive enrichment program for the Edgehill community. As principal of Rose Park Middle, I am excited about having the facility become a part of our campus and having MNPS teams use this facility along with younger children in the neighborhood and Belmont University. Having the batting facility conveniently located on our site near Easley Center, Carter Lawrence, and the Athletic Complex will help to facilitate success of our plan.

Why add sports as a component to the enrichment program? A 2019 Hanover Research Institute report cites: "The community that grows around a school's athletic program can experience positive social benefits in the form of higher overall academic improvement for the student body." You can Just imagine what a program that includes sports will do for the Edgehill neighborhood – especially for those Metro students who are bused every day and thus cannot participate in sports where they attend school. These same students often don't have access to email or computers in their homes and many parents may not be equipped to reinforce academic skills or pay for their kids to do the high-priced programs like Kumon or Sylvan Learning. Edgehill kids and their families need equity.

The program we are proposing helps us make optimal use of the existing sports facility, adds a batting facility to help kids see how practice can make perfect, provides equity, adds an academic component and helps to close a much, needed gap for educational needs of Edgehill children. Please vote to approve the batting facility to be owned by Metro Schools planned for my school, Rose Park Middle.

Rommie L. Vasser, Jr.

Executive Principal, Rose Park Magnet Middle School

#### Parent Advisory Council Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools 1025 9th Ave S. - Nashville, TN 37203

October 23, 2019

Metropolitan Planning Commission 700 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN 37210

Dear Planning Commission Members,

I currently serve as the President of the Parent Advisory Council for Metro Schools and also am the current President of the Parent Teacher Organization at Rose Park Middle School. I am the person who represents parents both at the school and system-wide.

Already, the children at Rose Park utilize the Sports Facility at Rose Park, and we are in favor of the putting a batting facility on the Rose Park Middle campus because it will be another resource that our school can use and Metro Public Schools athletic teams can use to benefit our children, and all students athletes will use the facility without regard to religion.. Nowhere in Metro do we have this type of facility that will allow our children to practice to become good at a sport. An October 20<sup>th</sup> *Tennessean* editorial said that educators need resources to help our children and reduce the suspension rate. We all know that Metro Schools does not have the budget to build and maintain these type of facilities that we need. It is also a fact that we work side-by-side with Belmont on many projects to empower our students. This facility will allow another opportunity for parents to be involved with their children, and improve the school system overall.

In May, 78 schools celebrated Wellness Week, and the children learned how to incorporate changes into their lives to encourage them to be healthy. Being involved in a sport is a way for our children to be active and have fun at the same time. All parents know that when children are enjoying themselves, they don't want to miss school. If they don't miss school, they will graduate and be active as adults. Sports also encourages our children to learn how to work toward individual and team goals. Those involved in sports also have a better opportunity to secure scholarships to go to college.

Regular physical activity improves mood and encourages mental and physical health. I am disturbed that a small group is opposed to a comprehensive program that will benefit our children by helping to raise test scores, grades and reducing suspension rates. I request to speak on behalf of the PTO and the Parent Advisory Council.

Bo Barlow

Barry Barlow, President Parent Advisory Council

October 22, 2019

Metro Planning Commission 700 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN 37210

Dear Planning Commission Members,

As president of the Resident Association for Edgehill Apartments, I am a tenant and elected to represent all of the families living in 380 public housing units. I am also the Executive Director of the Edgehill Family Resource Center. There have been at least four meetings for neighbors to discuss putting a batting facility in our community.

Our Association has discussed the facility and feel that it would directly benefit our children and grandchildren. While we like green space, we know that there is a greater need to have our kids productively occupied after school. While some children's parents in our gentrified community can get in a station wagon to go to Brentwood for their children to play baseball or soccer, it is more environmentally friendly for us to go across the street to Rose Park or Easley soccer where there is a well-kept, state-of-the-art sports facility. While some kids' parents can pay for their kids to be tutored or to take ACT prep classes, it is more beneficial and cost effective for our kids to get academic support from a Metro School run program right in their own neighborhood.

I have been a part of Metro Schools planning team to do an enrichment program in Edgehill. This comprehensive program includes hot meals for our kids, academic support, and a choice of arts and sports, one of which will be baseball. The batting facility, that has been under discussion for too long in our neighborhood, will mean our kids have the opportunity to practice and get better and better so that when they compete outside our neighborhood, they are not awed by a facility in another city or another part of the city because they have the best right in their own neighborhood. Participation in sports also improves academic performance. It is time to stop talking about this and build this facility at Rose Park School to also give other Metro High School teams a place where they can go to practice, be excellent, so that it improves their chances to get scholarships to go college.

Neighborhood churches, non-profits, Metro Parks, Metro Schools, and the Edgehill Apartments Residents Association are all on board. Other people say they are speaking for us, but we can speak for ourselves. We say yes to the batting facility, and we hope you do too. I request to speak on behalf of the Residents Association.

Sincerely. Brenda Morrow, President

Edgehill Apartments Residents Association

October 23, 2019

Metro Planning Commission 700 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN 37210

Dear Members of the Metro Planning Commission:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the agreement between Metro Nashville Public Schools and Belmont University for the construction of an indoor batting facility on the site of Rose Park Middle Magnet School (BL 2019-11 on mandatory referral). This collaboration is an opportunity to bring together some outstanding organizations, community groups, congregations and individuals for the benefit of the Nashville community.

I served as chairman of the Metropolitan Planning Commission from 2005 to 2014 and served on the Parks Board representing the commission. In that role I was engaged in the redevelopment of E.S. Rose Park that was funded by Belmont University in 2010-11 and has had an enormously positive community impact. The track record that Belmont has established with Metro Parks is that of a dependable partner willing to work alongside any community group or individual to achieve the common goals of expanding sports and recreational opportunities for our entire community. To create such a public/private partner I am confident outstanding results will be created out of the programs being built around the indoor batting facility that enhance the educational and recreational needs of both parties and further provides sorely needed facilities for our youth. Please support the efforts of MNPS and Belmont in this regard.

tames Joyason

James Lawson 3969 Lloyd Road Whites Creek, TN 37189

October 22, 2019

**Metro Planning Commission** 700 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN 37210

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

This letter comes to support the partnership between Metro Nashville Public Schools and Belmont University to construct an indoor batting facility at Rose Park Middle Magnet School.

I sponsored the original agreement approved by the Metro Council in 2007 that provided for an athletic facility at Metro Parks' Rose Park that would be owned by Metro Parks and utilized by Carter Lawrence, Rose Park Middle, Metro Parks Easley Center, the community and Belmont University because I knew that our youth needed access to a state-of-the art sports facility. This partnership has worked well and has proved successful.

Everyone can agree that "practice makes perfect." Currently, students playing on Metro Schools' baseball teams have no batting facility where they can perfect their batting skills. Putting a batting facility on property owned by MNPS maximizes use of a facility to be built by Belmont University, owned by MNPS, and utilized by teams at MNPS, Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities (the non-profit operating baseball and softball teams for underserved communities), and Belmont. This partnership with MNPS, Belmont, and Metro Parks will also allow MNPS to operate a one-of-a-kind afterschool enrichment program that includes academics and sports for the Edgehill community. Participation in such a program helps put kids on a regular schedule, reduces absenteeism and improves homework completion resulting in improved classroom performance. This wrap-around program that adds a physical component can be replicated throughout Metro to address bettering our kids' learning skills.

I urge you to vote to approve the batting facility sorely needed by Metro Schools to be placed at Rose Park Middle School.

July N, Wallace by jbr Mpermission

Former Metro 17<sup>th</sup> District Councilman



October 23, 2019

Metro Nashville Planning Commission 700 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN 37210

Members of the Planning Commission:

Salama Urban Ministries is a faith based youth development organization, focused on academics, performing arts and spiritual development. We have been a part of the Edgehill community for 34 years and we remain committed to partnerships which help to support the growth and development of our community's youth specifically, and the community as a whole, collectively. To that end, Salama has been meeting with Metro Nashville Public Schools, Metro Parks, Edgehill Apartments representatives, and Belmont University regarding the development of an entichment program for children in the Edgehill community. Salama's contribution to this program will be teaching performing arts. The enrichment program, to include academic support, will also expose our children to sports: basketball, soccer, baseball, football, lacrosse, etc., at the Sports Complex at Rose Park.

Metro Nashville Public Schools is requesting that a batting facility be built on the Rose Park Middle School site so that students who are a part of the enrichment program, students in Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools baseball programs, Reviving Baseball Ball in Inner Cities, and Belmont University will share use of the facility. As we instruct kids enrolled in performing arts in developing and honing the craft, the children who choose baseball and other activities will have the opportunity to gain fundamental skills in sports, academics, and other enrichment activities.

As a part of the planning team for our enrichment program, I write to ask each of you to favorably consider MNPS's request to build a batting facility on the property at Rose Park Middle Magnet School. I request the opportunity to speak at the Planning Commission meeting to publicly share my support of this effort.

Dawana L. Wade Chief Executive Officer



Metropolitan Planning Commission 800 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN

Dear Planning Commission Members,

I am the pastor of Kayne Avenue Baptist Church located right across the street from Carter Lawrence School. I have personally attended meetings to plan a robust outof-school initiative for the children in the Edgehill community and I am excited about what can take place, with your approval, to enhance our community offerings.

It is no secret that Metro Schools needs the support of parents and the help of community stakeholders to partner with teachers in order to improve the test scores of our children. However, we should not focus solely on test scores alone because our children also need to be well rounded in life. As such they need to be involved in positive activities that will give them the same advantage that their peers have in other neighborhoods. Such as facilities that will help them engage in competitive play at the high school level while, at the same time, preparing them for collegiate level sports. This will give them the experience and training required to be competitive for top ranked schools, scholarships, and grants. But most importantly it will help them become wellrounded adults and good community leaders.

With this program they will have access to: a hot meal, academic support, community and college mentors, and place to enhance their skill level as they prepare for what awaits them in the future. Imagine the block where it all takes place: Carter Lawrence School, Easley Center, Rose Parks Sports Facility, and Rose Park Middle School with a batting facility. In one block, all of this will be possible and easily accessible to children and parents in the neighborhood. Parents, grandparents, and church members can walk to see their children, get involved in their cducational pursuits, and help to facilitate a safe and nurturing environment.

This is our dream. The members of Kayne Avenue Baptist Church ask that you help our community by making the dream a reality and pass having a batting facility at Rose Park Middle School.

Sincerely.

Rev. Harmon Stockdale, Pastor Kayne Avenue Baptist Church



October 22, 2019

The Metropolitan Planning Commission 700 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN 37210

Planning Commission Members:

I have served as the Pastor of Second Missionary Baptist Church (founded in 1902) for 33 years and am an author and entrepreneur. I also serve as the treasurer for the South Nashville Community Development Corporation. Over the years, I have seen many changes in the neighborhood. My kids were denied a neighborhood elementary school experience. The school was closed. My kids had to be bused. However, when the area became gentrified, suddenly the closed school was renovated and reopened.

Metro Schools is now planning to do an afterschool program to address the disparity in education for the kids in Edgehill. There are numerous organizations that have come together to support the effort to do a wraparound after-school and Saturday program. The partnership includes the MNPS, Parks, Salama Ministries, Bethel A.M.E., Kayne Avenue, Watson Grove, Kayne Avenue, and Belmont Church, and Belmont University. Belmont has been told they had to leave Greer, was asked to build the batting facility at Rose Park. It met and met with the community, and then Metro Parks approved the plan. Belmont is also has provided almost \$ 2 million in scholarships and is a community partner.

Metro Schools, which currently does not have a batting facility for its baseball, softball, and golfing athletes, sorely needs a facility and wants to make it a part of the enrichment program we are planning. The Edgehill Apartments Residents Association represent 380 families who live in Edgehill Public Housing want the batting facility, the enrichment program that will improve their children's school performance and mold them into adults who can focus, set goals, and work to achieve them. I understand that you may have gotten a lot of emails from residents who may not have lived here a long time. But the people who don't have computers and emails and who lack resources need to be heard. These children have a right to be their best and thrive. This is their neighborhood. Children who participate in sports are less likely to have discipline problems. These children attend school, and many of them earn post-secondary degrees. This is what we need for our kids.

Our church will be involved and provide mentors for the children in the program. I would hope that you vote for what the people need who have the least, instead of the people who claim to speak for them. I request to speak at the Planning Commission meeting on the behalf of the members of our congregation.

. Kolon C. Barlow, Jr.

1000 Halcyon Avenue Email: smbc1902@hotmail.com Nashville, Tennessee 37204

615-298-1832



Greater Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church 1300 South Street Nashville, Tennessee 37212 Phone: (615) 256-1509 = Fax; (615) 726-8534 Rev. Walter Winstead Reid Jr., Pastor

October 21, 2019

Members of the Planning Commission 800 Second Avenue South Nashville, TN

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

Last year, we had a representative from Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church meet with Metro Parks, Metro Nashville Public Schools, Salama Ministries, Organized Neighbors of Edgehill, and several churches in our neighborhood to talk about a batting facility to be put at Rose Park for the use of children in our neighborhood and Belmont University.

Please know that Rose Park is named for a former pastor of our church. He was a community activist, and we want to continue to honor him by being involved in our community and advocating on behalf of the families who live here.

The program is designed to be a comprehensive program that will include a hot meal for our children. After eating, the children will be engaged by Metro teachers in a curriculum designed to enhance their academic skills to include support for language arts, math, STEAM, and career exploration. After that, the children will be able to choose from among performing arts or various sports, be educated about the rules of the sports, and practice the sport to get good at it. The four neighborhood churches involved have agreed to have our members assist the Metro teachers and serve as role models and help with the sports activities. Metro Schools has now asked that the batting facility be put on the Rose Park property so that Metro High School students will be able to use it for baseball, softball, and golf. Why? Because MNPS will then not have to pay Metro Parks every time they need to use the batting facility. Just like the current Rose Park agreement, Belmont will use the facility at times when Metro Schools does not use it.

This plan involved churches, non-profits, community organizations, and a University – all with the goal to involve the community in the education and leadership development of our children – giving them an opportunity to be excellent at what they do knowing that they have the support of people around them. It will have the added benefit of bringing a community together. Please vote to approve the batting facility at Rose Park Middle.

hcerely. Rev. Walter Reid, Pastor

Rev. Walter Redd, Pastor Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church



**METROPOLITAN BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION** 

Centennial Park Office Park Plaza at Oman Street

Nashville, TN 37201

(615) 862-8400 Fax (615) 862-8414

www.nashville.gov/parks

Monique Odom, Director

October 23, 2019

To Whom It May concern

The partnership between Metro Parks and Belmont University has been truly outstanding in regard to Rose Park. Their initial investment and ongoing support of the park allows not only their collegiate sports teams to utilize this wonderful facility but allows all Nashvillians to benefit as well. Their limited use leaves ample time for the general public to have access as most of their time is used during non-prime usage hours. Whenever there are conflicts in demand, they make every effort to accommodate the public use. Several local school teams use these fields on a regular basis. Nashvillians are very fortunate to have sports facilities of this caliber available for their use.

Sincerely,

John Holmes Assistant Director

It is the mission of the Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation to provide every citizen of Nashville and Davidson County with an equal opportunity for safe recreational and cultural activities within a network of parks and greenways that preserves and protects the regional natural resources"

FOR ADA ACCOMMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT 862-8400 WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

# **Rose Park Batting Facility Timeline**

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Belmont and Metro Parks begin discussions about proposed relocation of indoor February 28, 2017: batting facility to Rose Park. Amendment to Rose Park Lease authorizing indoor batting facility on north side May 2, 2017: of Rose Park approved by Metro Council on Third Reading. May 9, 2017: Mayor Barry signs ordinance amending Rose Park lease and authorizing construction of indoor batting facility north of the Olympic Street Parking Lot. June 22, 2017: CM Colby Sledge hosts community meeting to discuss batting facility. July 25, 2017 -Six Working Group Meetings (Parks, Metro Council, Neighbor Reps, July 31, 2018: Belmont). June 26, 2018: Metro Board of Public Education approves easement authorizing relocation of outdoor basketball courts partially on MNPS property to make way for batting facility on south side of Rose Park. September 4, 2018: Parks Board Public Hearing and action approving new amendment to Rose Park Lease locating batting facility on south side of Rose Park. September 17, 2018: Group Planning Meeting for Extended Learning Site Enrichment Programming: MNPS, Metro Parks, Belmont, RBI, Edgehill Church, Nonprofit Reps, and Edgehill Residents Assn Rep. September 19, 2018: Colby Sledge hosts community meeting. October 13, 2018: Colby Sledge hosts community meeting. October 30, 2018: Group Planning Meeting for Extended Learning Site Enrichment Programming. November 27, 2018: Metro Board of Public Education approves memorandum of understanding granting easement for construction of indoor batting facility on Rose Park Middle School site. March 5, 2019: Group Planning Meeting for Extended Learning Site Enrichment Programming. August 6, 2019: Parks Board approves granting construction and grading easements to facilitate construction of batting facility on MNPS property. Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) votes in favor of upholding the Zoning October 3, 2019 and October 17, 2019: Administrator's determination that the batting facility complies with the Nashville zoning code.

### BELMONT'S ROSE PARK EXPENSES THROUGH FY19/Fall '19

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\$ 1,944,939.00
\$ 928,409.00
\$ 573,238.00
\$ 3,446,586.00
\$ 9,718,897.00
\$ 13,165,483.00
\$

BELMONT'S BRIDGES TO BELMONT EXPENSES THROUGH FALL 2019						
Bridges to Belmont Scholarships, etc.	\$	23,137,309.00				

INSTITUTIONAL OVERLAY COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP EXPENSES THROUGH FY19Half Tuition Community Scholarships\$435,059.00

### BELMONT EDGEHILL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP INVOLVEMENT 2011-2019

#### **Health**

Flu shots Walking Club Dispensary of Hope – free medicine to eligible seniors Workshop on self-care Workshop on access to care Connect residents to specialty services (mental health, etc.) Pick and delivery of medications from Belmont's pharmacy Blood pressure checks at Edgehill events Youth Teaching Kitchen (food and instructor

#### Education

Annual Literacy Day

**Tutors for Easley Center** 

STEM activities for youth

**Rose Park Scholars** 

BU students raise 10K for personal computers for Rose Park scholarship recipients

Poetry contests

Journalism Club at Rose Park Middle (produces neighborhood paper)

Summer enrichment programs at Kayne Ave and Watson Grove

Afterschool ACT prep for neighborhood high schoolers

Summer and Saturday on-campus academic program in partnership with churches

Summer middle school leadership program (Common Core skills, problem-solving, developing personal

style)

Music volunteers at Rose Park

Donate school supplies to surrounding neighborhood schools and Salama

Math/STEM program

STEM drones

Judge science competitions

Helped to fund Rose Park Middle School to attend national STEM competition

Raised reading scores of student at Salama

Saturday kids movies and discussion to encourage critical thinking

Ballet performances at Easley, exposure and participation - attend ballet at Belmont

Youth summer field trips (includes transportation and admission fees)

Spoken Word

Art classes

**Kids Science Workshops** 

#### Zip lining

Helped with girls program at Edgehill UMC Sponsor Les Gemmes girls group (includes Edgehill youth) Computers for new Easley computer lab, internet, and maintenance Salama afterschool self-awareness program with Black Student Assn Supply speakers for schools Music Classes

#### **Sports**

Soccer Clinic

Annual Community Day (Free dinner, games for kids, and basketball game tickets)

Field Days for Carter Lawrence and Rose Park

Sports Camps at Rose Park

Funds used to renovate & buy equipment for weight room

Pay youth basketball fees

Helped to enroll youth at Carter Lawrence & Rose Park in baseball program

Intramural equipment purchased

Campus Security donated bikes by to Edgehill Bike Club

Campus Security participates in Edgehill Bike rodeo

Student help at Edgehill United Methodist Church

Host final event for Senior Games week & Awards

Monthly Athletic Clinics at Easley

#### Housing

Renovated exteriors of 5 elderly homes with neighborhood churches.

Help produce materials for pastors to educate parishioners on keeping their homes and rights as renters

#### **Recreation/Entertainment**

Annual Halloween event

Easter Egg hunts

Edgehill Christmas – toys for kids in Edgehill Apts.

Did movie night at Midtown Precinct for neighbors

Little Brother film premier to discuss violence against young black males

Host Black Film Festival & invite neighborhood

Seniors Valentine's parties

Dance classes and Zumba

Family trips to Kentucky Kingdom and Chattanooga Aquarium

Students work in Edgehill Garden

#### Marketing

Conducted surveys and focus groups on Easley Center

Developed plan for marketing of Easley

Produce Easley newsletter with calendar and interest stories

Produced outreach manual for Metro Parks

Work study student assigned to Easley Center to work with teens to market Easley

#### **Other Community**

Brought in internationally acclaimed artist Edgar Arceneaux to work with neighborhood and local artists for utilitarian art project at Edgehill Garden, Edgehill Library, and for mobile Edgehill Bike unit

Annual "Night Out Against Crime" participation

Helped to found South Nashville Fellowship CDC with neighborhood churches

Funds used to add staff at Easley to enhance programming & increase numbers served Legal Clinic

Students painted mural on Midtown Police Precinct wall

Won Mayor Dean's Award for most community involved in workplace challenge

Won TN Recreation and Parks Association award for Rose Park Athletics facilities & partnership with Metro Parks

# E.S. Rose Park 2019 Permit Holders

2019 Family Literacy **BNA Soccer** Carter Lawrence School **Chrisrian** Interiano **Clarksville Orioles Collierville Soccer** Columbia Football Club **Desmond Armstrong Duke Baseball** Eagle Express Easley Center Easter Egg Easley Comm Ctr East Nash Soccer **Emerald Force Soc Club** Father Ryan Baseball FC Alliance FC Bareclona Academy Nas **Glencliff High School** Heroes Hope In The City House of Kabob Soccer Hume Fogg BB Hume Fogg Soccer Internaitional Soccer JT Moore **Kipp Academy** Knights Baseball Memphis Football Club Men's Rugby Metro Parks disabilites Metro Parks Youth TRK MFC Middle TN Adult BB Middle TN Bulldawgs FF MLK **MNPS** MSC MSSL MTSA Murfreesboro 03 Storm Music City 5K run Nashville FC Nashville Grizzlies Nashville Men's Rugby

Nashville Night Shade Nashville Soccer Club Native Creative Net Elite Baseball NFC NSL NUSA NUSA 06 Maroon **O.N.E B.Morrow** Pastime Tournaments Play BPA Baseball Pre Baseball Report RBI Republic High School Rose Park Track Meet Sandlott St Mary's Coptic Church Stephen Bort **TN United Soccer Club** Texas Playboys Baseball TSC TSSA(Otey Smithson) Ultimate Frisbee Vanderbilt Club Baseball

Date 10-22-19

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is

rota her . and I want the members of the Planning Commission to know that I know about the batting facility that is planned to be built at Rose Park Middle School. I feel that the children in this neighborhood need to have access to the batting facility to expose them to the baseball and get good at it. We need to educate our children early about having an active,

healthy lifestyle. I support the Enrichment Program that Metro Schools is planning for our neighborhood that will serve a hot meal, teach academic skills, and provide choice of sports and performing arts right on the school grounds. Our community will also help with the program. Please approve the batting facility. Our kids, who don't have transportation will be able to live, go to school, play, and be exposed to all kinds of sports that will help them learn to work together right here in their own neighborhood.

Date 10-22-19

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is AMTHONY ALExander , and I want

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Date / () - 2 3 -

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is Mildred

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, and I want

10-22.2019 Date

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is <u>brianna Tavrel</u> <u>brown</u>, and I want the members of the Planning Commission to know that I know about the batting facility that is planned to be built at Rose Park Middle School. I feel that the children in this neighborhood need to have access to the batting facility to expose them to the baseball and get good at it. We need to educate our children early about having an active, healthy lifestyle. I support the Enrichment Program that Metro Schools is planning for our neighborhood that will serve a hot meal, teach academic skills, and provide choice of sports and performing arts right on the school grounds. Our community will also help with the program. Please approve the batting facility. Our kids, who don't have transportation will be able to live, go to school, play, and be exposed to all kinds of sports that will help them learn to work together right here in their own neighborhood.

Brianner Terrell Brown
SIGNATURE
1486 Wth Ave S
ADDRESS
Nasinully TN 37203
CITY, STATE, ZIP

Date 10-23-2019

Dear Planning Commission Members:

People in our community have met for a year with Metro Schools to work together to plan an afterschool program for our children that will include a hot meal, academic skills for reading, math, STEAM, exposure to careers, sports, and adult workforce development training. A part of this program includes building a batting facility at Rose Park Middle School that will be used by Metro High Schools, little league teams, and Belmont. feel that a program of this type, conveniently placed in our own neighborhood allows our children to do well in school and be healthy. If they can't be healthy, they won't do well in school. It also allows our community to be involved in the education of the whole child and support them right in our own neighborhood. It will help to create a well community. Please vote for the batting facility. SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

Date 10-20-1

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is Patricia CArswell , and I want

the members of the Planning Commission to know that I know about the batting facility that is planned to be built at Rose Park Middle School. 1 feel that the children in this neighborhood need to have access to the batting facility to expose them to the baseball and get good at it. We need to educate our children early about having an active, healthy lifestyle. I support the Enrichment Program that Metro Schools is planning for our neighborhood that will serve a hot meal, teach academic skills, and provide choice of sports and performing arts right on the school grounds. Our community will also help with the program. Please approve the batting facility. Our kids, who don't have transportation will be able to live, go to school, play, and be exposed to all kinds of sports that will help them learn to work together right here in their own neighborhood.

JIDI Edge hill 310 ADDRESS

Jashwelle Jerm 38019 CITY. STATE. ZIP

Date 10-22-19

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is (AL)RCM , and I want

the members of the Planning Commission to know that I know about the batting facility that is planned to be built at Rose Park Middle School. I feel that the children in this neighborhood need to have access to the batting facility to expose them to the baseball and get good at it. We need to educate our children early about having an active, healthy lifestyle. I support the Enrichment Program that Metro Schools is planning for our neighborhood that will serve a hot meal, teach academic skills, and provide choice of sports and performing arts right on the school grounds. Our community will also help with the program. Please approve the batting facility. Our kids, who don't have transportation will be able to live, go to school, play, and be exposed to all kinds of sports that will help them learn to work together right here in their own neighborhood.

SIGNATURE **ADDRESS** CITY, STATE, ZIP

Date 10 - 22-19

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

and I want My name is

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SIGNATURE ADDRESS

Date Shameka Coving for

**Dear Planning Commission Members:** 

People in our community have met for a year with Metro Schools to work together to plan an afterschool program for our children that will include a hot meal, academic skills for reading, math, STEAM, exposure to careers, sports, and adult workforce development training. A part of this program includes building a batting facility at Rose Park Middle School that will be used by Metro High Schools, little league teams, and Belmont. I Shameka Covington feel that a program of this type, conveniently placed in our own neighborhood allows our children to do well in school and be healthy. If they can't be healthy, they won't do well in school. It also allows our community to be involved in the education of the whole child and support them right in our own neighborhood. It will help to create a well community. Please vote for the batting facility.

- ave 9041/ PM, 37203 ADDRESS

18-22-Date

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is

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SIGNATURE ICI AS ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP

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Date 10/22/19

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Michelle Epps SIGNATURE 1267 124 Ave. South ADDRESS Nashvillo TN 37203 CITY, STATE, ZIP

Oct. 22,21 Date

**Dear Planning Commission Members:** 

People in our community have met for a year with Metro Schools to work together to plan an afterschool program for our children that will include a hot meal, academic skills for reading, math, STEAM, exposure to careers, sports, and adult workforce development training. A part of this program includes building a batting facility at Rose Park Middle School that will be used by Metro High Schools, little league teams, and Belmont. I <u>heave</u> feel that a program of this type, conveniently placed in our own neighborhood allows our children to do well in school and be healthy. If they can't be healthy, they won't do well in school. It also allows our community to be involved in the education of the whole child and support them right in our own neighborhood. It will help to create a well community. Please vote for the batting facility.

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02 Date

Dear Planning Commission Members:

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

Date 10-22-19

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ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

10-22-19 Date

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is Tim hear's , and I want

the members of the Planning Commission to know that I know about the batting facility that is planned to be built at Rose Park Middle School. I feel that the children in this neighborhood need to have access to the batting facility to expose them to the baseball and get good at it. We need to educate our children early about having an active, healthy lifestyle. I support the Enrichment Program that Metro Schools is planning for our neighborhood that will serve a hot meal, teach academic skills, and provide choice of sports and performing arts right on the school grounds. Our community will also help with the program. Please approve the batting facility. Our kids, who don't have transportation will be able to live, go to school, play, and be exposed to all kinds of sports that will help them learn to work together right here in their own neighborhood.

14th Alle 1332

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

Date 10/23/2019

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is PATRICIA K MAYES , and I want

the members of the Planning Commission to know that I know about the batting facility that is planned to be built at Rose Park Middle School. I feel that the children in this neighborhood need to have access to the batting facility to expose them to the baseball and get good at it. We need to educate our children early about having an active, healthy lifestyle. I support the Enrichment Program that Metro Schools is planning for our neighborhood that will serve a hot meal, teach academic skills, and provide choice of sports and performing arts right on the school grounds. Our community will also help with the program. Please approve the batting facility. Our kids, who don't have transportation will be able to live, go to school, play, and be exposed to all kinds of sports that will help them learn to work together right here in their own neighborhood.

Patricia K Mayre

1101 Edgehill Ave Apt. 509 ADDRESS At Mashville, Try 37203 CITY, STATE, ZIP

Date 10-22-19

**Dear Planning Commission Members:** 

People in our community have met for a year with Metro Schools to work together to plan an afterschool program for our children that will include a hot meal, academic skills for reading, math, STEAM, exposure to careers, sports, and adult workforce development training. A part of this program includes building a batting facility at Rose Park Middle School that will be used by Metro High Schools, little league teams, and Belmont. I <u>Hikley Moesis</u> feel that a program of this type, conveniently placed in our own neighborhood allows our children to do well in school and be healthy. If they can't be healthy, they won't do well in school. It also allows our community to be involved in the education of the whole child and support them right in our own neighborhood. It will help to create a well community. Please vote for the batting facility.

Morora

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

Date 10/23/19

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

Date 10-23-2019

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is Trisha Ormond , and I want

the members of the Planning Commission to know that I know about the batting facility that is planned to be built at Rose Park Middle School. I feel that the children in this neighborhood need to have access to the batting facility to expose them to the baseball and get good at it. We need to educate our children early about having an active, healthy lifestyle. I support the Enrichment Program that Metro Schools is planning for our neighborhood that will serve a hot meal, teach academic skills, and provide choice of sports and performing arts right on the school grounds. Our community will also help with the program. Please approve the batting facility. Our kids, who don't have transportation will be able to live, go to school, play, and be exposed to all kinds of sports that will help them learn to work together right here in their own neighborhood.

Inopa Ormond SIGNATURE

2507 Ashwood Ave Nachulle 37212

Date 10-20-19

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11-22 Date

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ashri

Date 10-22-19

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Delilie Q. Smith SIGNATURE 1259 1277 Avenue ADDRESS Mashiulle, Im

Date 10-23-19

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

Myname is Deborah Stewart

the members of the Planning Commission to know that I know about the batting facility that is planned to be built at Rose Park Middle School. I feel that the children in this neighborhood need to have access to the batting facility to expose them to the baseball and get good at it. We need to educate our children early about having an active, healthy lifestyle. I support the Enrichment Program that Metro Schools is planning for our neighborhood that will serve a hot meal, teach academic skills, and provide choice of sports and performing arts right on the school grounds. Our community will also help with the program. Please approve the batting facility. Our kids, who don't have transportation will be able to live, go to school, play, and be exposed to all kinds of sports that will help them learn to work together right here in their own neighborhood.

Delouch Stewart SIGNATURE 1195 Wedge wood Ave #pt 1015 ADDRESS Nush TN 37203 CITY, STATE, ZIP

, and I want

Date 10-22-19

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

Myname is Kevin Stewart , and I want

the members of the Planning Commission to know that I know about the batting facility that is planned to be built at Rose Park Middle School. I feel that the children in this neighborhood need to have access to the batting facility to expose them to the baseball and get good at it. We need to educate our children early about having an active, healthy lifestyle. I support the Enrichment Program that Metro Schools is planning for our neighborhood that will serve a hot meal, teach academic skills, and provide choice of sports and performing arts right on the school grounds. Our community will also help with the program. Please approve the batting facility. Our kids, who don't have transportation will be able to live, go to school, play, and be exposed to all kinds of sports that will help them learn to work together right here in their own neighborhood.

Kein Stewart SIGNATURE 1259 1271 Avenue Sout ADDRESS Mashielle, In 37:

Date 10-22-19

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

My name is <u>Mary</u> <u>Stewart</u>, and I want the members of the Planning Commission to know that I know about the batting facility that is planned to be built at Rose Park Middle School. I feel that the children in this neighborhood need to have access to the batting facility to expose them to the baseball and get good at it. We need to educate our children early about having an active, healthy lifestyle. I support the Enrichment Program that Metro Schools is planning for our neighborhood that will serve a hot meal, teach academic skills, and provide choice of sports and performing arts right on the school grounds. Our community will also help with the program. Please approve the batting facility. Our kids, who don't have transportation will be able to live, go to school, play, and be exposed to all kinds of sports that will help them learn to work together right here in their own neighborhood.

J-s. 7 1274 (1 hur CITY, STATE, ZIP

Date 10-22-19

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SIGNATURE 1326 101 Aur South

Date 10-22-19

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From: DANA SCOTT [mailto:scott\_dana@bellsouth.net] Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 6:34 PM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Opposition to 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019-11)

Reason for opposition:

The 2nd floor will be for a private institution's exclusive use. Public land should not be for the exclusive benefit of a private institution.

Dana Scott 1521 Heritage View Blvd Madison, TN 37115

From: Charlton Pence [mailto:charlton@aloharadiant.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 9:47 AM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Oppose 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019- 11)

Dear Commissioners,

Please do not support the proposed lease amendment in its current form.

The 2nd floor of this proposed building violates proper land use on the following grounds:

- 1. The 2nd floor will be for a private institution's <u>exclusive</u> use. There is no public access. Public land should not be for the exclusive benefit of a private institution.
- 2. The 2nd floor will <u>not serve the education or recreational needs</u> of MNPS students as the amendment expressly excludes public use.
- 3. The Metro Nashville Government and MNPS do not <u>discriminate on the basis of religion</u>. Private religious institutions can and do. Religious discrimination on MNPS property is an improper use of public land.

Please do not support the current version of the bill that gives control and exclusive use of MNPS property to a private religious institution.

Respectfully, Charlton Pence 900 Tower Place Nashville, TN 37204

I went to Hillsboro High School where many of my friends were from the Edgehill community and some still live there. I have talked with a few of them that still live there and they are strongly opposed to the idea of the Belmont building, so I stand with them, on the right side of history! You should too.

Item 15: 2019M-032AG-001 - ROSE PARK

From: Karin Kalodimos [mailto:kkalodimos@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 9:52 AM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Opposition to 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019-11)

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I am writing to request that you vote against BL2019-11 which would allow Belmont University to build and use a "batting facility" at Rose Park.

While on the surface this may appear a win for the city, it is a loss for Edgehill and Nashville. The "selling off" of our public land to a private university not only limits the amount of green space it limits access to the <u>park.by</u> residents. I wouldn't think that I could walk onto Belmont campus to have a picnic and with this building, Rose park will appear to be the property of Belmont and in practice this lease if granted will make it a reality - not on paper, but in practice.

Public parks should be able to be used at all times and even just the appearance of the park looks like it is a private facility. In addition, parking signage states that non-Belmont parking cannot use the lot on Edgehill Avenue

While Belmont may state that they allow public use, this is not the case. Whether this is done by appearance or in action, residents do currently have limited access to this public property. If this lease is approved, it will further lessen use and access and at a rate that is far below market value.

If the building with a second floor office is constructed on MNPS property, the front entrance into the park will in reality be closed off to the public in addition to a private institution that can discriminate based on religion operating on public land that cannot discriminate makes the transition from private to public complete.

While Belmont insists it is providing access to the area youth, it will really be controlling what access those children have to public property. This is not right.

Please vote NO to BL-2019-11.

Thank you, Karin Kalodimos 907 Villa Place Nashville, TN 37212

From: Doug Hausken [mailto:doughausken@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 10:03 AM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: Opposition to 2019M-032AG-001 (BL2019-11)

I am opposed to Belmont building on the private land of Rose Park Magnet School.

1) The 2nd floor will be for a private institution's exclusive use. Public land should not be for the exclusive benefit of a private institution.

2) The 2nd floor will not serve the education or recreational needs of MNPS students as the contract expressly prohibits public use.

3) MNPS and Nashville do not discriminate against religious affiliations, however, private religious institutions can (and do). This is not consistent with land use for Nashville tax payers.

4) If this lease is approved, it will set a terrible precedent. It will allow any public land to be leased below market value with the lessee controlling terms of use and access.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Doug Hausken

4857 Lynn Dr, Nashville, TN 37211

From: Rodney King [mailto:rodney.king.beyond@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 11:31 AM To: Planning Commissioners Subject: BL2019-11 opposition

I am writing to express my opposition to bill #BL2019-11 which would allow Belmont University to build an athletic facility on the site adjacent to Rose Park Middle School.

I am opposed to this for three primary reasons:

1) Belmont is a private university and discriminates on the basis of religion. Any entity that engages in discrimination should not be allowed to engage in business with Nashville/Davidson County. Leasing this property, long term, at well-below-market rates would indicate that Metro's government approves of, or at least is tolerant of, this type of discrimination. This is not a good look for Nashville.

2) When faced with opposition to building this facility in Rose Park, Belmont went behind the neighborhoods back and changed their proposal to a Metro School property. There were no public hearings on this and we were not made aware of this change until construction started. This demonstrates a bad-faith effort on the part of Belmont, and should be just cause for dismissing their request.

3) Public land should be designated for public use, not for private entities. Belmont has already taken over a majority of Rose Park for their athletic facilities. They have a campus on which they could build their athletic facilities, but they seem to prefer getting sweetheart deals from Metro. Think of it this way: If Vanderbilt University proposed building a new football stadium in Centennial Park, would you even, for one second, consider that a possibility?

Thank you for your consideration.

Rodney King 907 Villa Place Nashville, TN 37212