

1424 S. 6th St.

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CITY CLERK

Rezoning Concerns

From: Jennifer Martin (jmartin@thsb.com)

To: keriyousif@yahoo.com

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Below please find my concerns as a neighbor and former President of the historical board:

To whom it may concern,

I have lived in the Grove for nearly 10 years. I moved here for the beautiful architecture, the friendly people, and the amazing accessibility to the schools.

Over the years here I have seen many changes, both improvements and concerns. I have had the great pleasure to help and be helped by a great group of neighbors, and to foster lifelong friendships. I currently raise 6 children in this district, and formerly fostered several years ago.

My concerns for the rezoning, and subsequent dorm building project cover several items.

Firstly, the members of the Next Step program are not always good neighbors. Before meetings there are groups of people near the picnic tables often using profanity, being loud, and overall intimidating. There have been instances of cat calling over their time here, and my children do not feel comfortable being in the front yard when they are present, nor do I feel comfortable at times gardening.

Secondly, as a home owner whom has invested a great deal into the improvement of my home and property, I have genuine concerns about the effect that the addition of a dormitory will have on the value of my home. I chose the Grove for its tree lined streets, and incredible history. To add a modern building in the mix in this capacity is not what I was looking for as a resident here. I believe that it will be come a hinderance to attract new home owners to the Grove in the future, perhaps dooming the beautiful history to be eroded over time. We are situated only a short distance from an elementary school. The children attending Farrington Grove have to walk to and from school (they are outside of the bus route). While there is a need for what is being proposed I do not believe that a family neighborhood with such a close proximity to an elementary school is the proper choice.

Thirdly, as a former foster parent I am well versed in the need for what is being requested; however, I am also aware of the baggage that may come along with it. While the individuals seeking treatment may really be seeking a new life for themselves, that does not guarantee that everyone in there lives (domestic partners, parents, dealers) are also supporting this decision. This could mean that unsavory characters are drawn into the Grove by proxy resulting in a increase in crime and a decrease of feeling safety inside our homes.

Signed Jenna Martin 12/1/2021

Lastly, I am unsure if Next Step has given adequate thought to how this rezoning will affect the Grove going forward. If they decide to expand and move, that leaves that rezoned property open to anyone that could utilize it. As residents we would not have a say as to how it would be used in the future. The next occupants could be an even more unviable choice to the preservation of our great neighborhood and the dwindling history of the city.