

Edwards,Michelle

From: hanmat@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 2:04 PM
To: Edwards,Michelle
Subject: *Ext!* Copy of email sent to Council Members

****External Email - Think Before You Click****

- Helpdesk

Hello, Michelle. We wanted you to have a copy of an email we just sent to the City Council members. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions. Thank you.

Joe and Lynn Biggs

Dear Councilperson,

We are writing in regards to the August 6, 2020 Terre Haute City Council agenda item, "Special Ordinance 2, 2020", about which the Council has received a request to table until its September 10, 2020 meeting. We respectfully ask that this request to table be denied and that action be taken by the Council during its August 6th meeting. We believe that, in the six months since this ordinance was first introduced, counsel for the petitioner has had ample opportunity to present additional information in support of this speculative commercial rezoning petition. We, as property owners opposed to this ordinance, have utilized this time period to present the Council with additional information in the form of a letter dated June 4, 2020 supporting our opposition. We believe a copy of this letter was forwarded to you from Michelle Edwards in June. An additional copy of this letter will be sent from our email address shortly. Council member(s) should have also heard from at least one of our neighbors, Tim Rockwood, voicing his opposition to this ordinance.

To briefly reiterate our concerns, we strongly oppose any commercial rezoning in this area due to the fact that the area does not possess the necessary infrastructure for any commercial development. Further, any such development in the absence of this necessary infrastructure would negatively impact property values in the surrounding area. We have additional concerns about the 4207 E. Margaret Drive property, in particular. Unlike other areas of E. Margaret Drive that have been rezoned for commercial development, this small property is located within a heavily residential area which is ill-suited for commercial development due to its location and severe lack of infrastructure. It is also bordered by neighbors who are not interested in commercial rezoning at this time, making it essentially "landlocked" by valuable residential properties and therefore an extremely poor location for any commercial development interests.

Because of this situation, we respectfully request that, during the August 6th meeting, Special Ordinance 2, 2020 either be withdrawn by its Council Sponsor, or receive a majority "No" vote by the Council, in order for an alternative to be implemented. This alternative is the initiation of a *redevelopment area plan*, as part of a larger *local comprehensive plan*, as described in our June 4th letter to the Council. In order for this important step to be taken over the course of the next several months, we request that one of the actions described above be taken by the Council. If, as part of the redevelopment area plan, a subcommittee of Council members and community leaders is created, we would be honored to be part of this subcommittee.

In May 2021, we will have lived in our home for 30 years, having raised all three of our children here. Many of our neighbors have lived in this area and raised their families for even longer periods of time. Those of us who have made this area of Terre Haute our home, and built our lives within it, for the past three decades (or longer)

earnestly entreat you to deny the request to table Special Ordinance 2, 2020 any further. We also ask that you act on August 6th to support those of us in opposition to this ordinance so that a more proactive and planned approach can be taken regarding redevelopment in this area. --Joe and Lynn Biggs