

**Edwards,Michelle**

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**From:** Stephanie Pence <slpence55@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 7, 2021 12:34 PM  
**To:** Azar, George; DeBaun,Curtis; Boland,Tammy; Auler,Amy; Elliott,Earl; Loudermilk,Cheryl; Nation,Todd; Garrison,Neil; Crossen,Martha  
**Cc:** Edwards,Michelle  
**Subject:** \*Ext!\* 830 S. 6th St Proposed Rehab Center Rezoning

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

- Helpdesk

City Council members,

We write this in hopes that you will NOT approve Special Ordinance 36, for the rezoning of the property at 830 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

My husband and I purchased our forever home in the Farrington's Grove Historic District almost two years ago. We chose this neighborhood not only because of the historic home but because of the steps being made to improve single and multi family homes in the area. We wanted to be part of the movement to improve this neighborhood. We feel that it is a good place for our daughter to grow up.

Putting a locked down rehabilitation center of this type is not appropriate for a residential neighborhood. It belongs in a medical park. Let us be clear we are not against rehabilitation programs. NextStep has become a good partner with the neighborhood and the community. Their residents and management are involved in the community.

The residents in the Chosen (for profit) facility will be locked in. We have legitimate concerns about the security of this proposed facility, and about the negative influence its presence would have on our neighborhood. It would increase traffic in an area where people walk their dogs or take walks with their small children and where children play in front yards. It would increase the likelihood of crime in the neighborhood. The sad truth is that drug-related crime isn't just drug-use crime and criminal elements within a community increase crime. When a person is in forced rehabilitation, they didn't make that choice. So the likelihood of recidivism is high. When they leave the facility they will leave with people from their old life, or if they are visited within the facility, it will be by people from their life outside the facility rather than controlled elements.

The management for Chosen is not local; they are not stakeholders in our community. They don't care about the effects their business may or may not have on a neighborhood, property values, or even the lives of their neighbors. They do not understand the value of Farrington's Grove. That is the job of our elected officials who owe a responsibility to the voters within the community. Their clients would not be from our community or re-entering our community. Chosen management stated in a meeting with FGHD that if this building had not been acquired it would not be a suitable location for their center. We stipulate that cost savings for a corporate interest is not a sufficient reason to overlook the inadequacies of the facility or the existing zoning ordinance. There is obviously a reason the other facilities that they own and operate are not in residential areas. You should allow them the opportunity to maintain their current business model and continue that practice by locating a potential new facility within a properly zoned area. What does it say about a company's respect for the community if they acquire a facility they know is inadequate for their needs and is not properly zoned for their needs rather than seek proper accommodations? We submit that they are showing themselves to be unworthy community partners through early action, and when someone tells you who and what they are, you should listen.

This facility in question is leftover from a time when there were other medical facilities in our neighborhood. Times have changed. The neighborhood has evolved, in the decades since. Terre Haute has spent too many years without a clear vision of the community it wants to become, which is why driving through town you can't drive more than a few blocks

without seeing the remnants of some decades old disaster of failed zoning enforcement. Don't continue the trend. Once Pandora's Box gets opened, it's difficult to close.

Please consider whether you'd like this built next to your house; or maybe consider the fallout of considering a vote for rezoning among the beautiful homes at 23rd & Ohio Blvd, Phoenix Hills, or Deming Woods.

Yes, it will bring jobs but those jobs could still come when they choose a location already in a medical area and more suited to their needs.

We're sure there is a future use for 830 S. 6th, but this is an ill use for it.

Again, we urge you NOT to approve this ordinance. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Stephanie & Nathan Pence  
1438 S. 6th St., Terre Haute  
812-243-9022