

Dunleath Neighborhood Association

April 23, 2024

Dear Mayor Vaughan and Members of City Council:

Our neighborhood association was recently contacted by Grant Duffield and Michelle Kennedy of the City's Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development regarding future use of the Executive Center at the corner of Summit Avenue and Sullivan Street.

The Executive Center has been identified as a problem property by our neighborhood going back at least as far as 2005, presenting consistent deficiencies in minimum housing standards and poor property management. Those problems have never been fully resolved.

Michelle and Grant met with a group of concerned neighbors on the Executive Center site several weeks ago to discuss their proposal that the City purchase the property for use as housing for people affected by HIV. They explained in detail their proposed financing, development, and management plans. Everyone present was enthusiastic about this proposal. Details of the plan were circulated to our neighborhood's 314 Google group subscribers, where it received only positive responses.

Grant and Michelle subsequently met online with our Board of Directors at our monthly meeting in April. Only one dissenting voice had been reported to the Board, and I later discovered that this person did not in fact object to the plan, but was merely disappointed that a brew pub or coffee shop was not being built at that location.

In any case, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to support the proposal as it was explained to us, and we look forward to cooperating with the City, the developer, and the managers of this property, and to welcoming some new neighbors soon.

We hope that the City Council will approve this project with equal enthusiasm.

Sincerely,



David Wharton
President, Dunleath Neighborhood Association