

From: Craig Eley [
Sent: Tuesday, August 19, 2014 12:11 PM
To: Martin, Alan
Subject: Opposition to the development of 740 Jenifer Street/739 Williamson Street

Dear UDC members,

I am writing to express my opposition to the 740 Jenifer Street/739 Williamson Street renovation and development proposal. I am currently the tenant at 734 Jenifer Street, directly adjacent to this property.

This proposed construction will not only radically alter the character and scale which are the defining characteristics of this neighborhood block, the design also contradicts many of the specific guidelines outlined in the "2004 Williamson Street Design Guidelines and Criteria for Preservation-600-1100 Blocks." Those design guidelines suggest that new developments "be designed to look like single-family, two flat or three flat homes." This 12-unit, 4-story, glass-and-concrete proposal utterly fails in this regard, and is completely out of step with the 2-story residential units that make up the majority of the neighborhood.

Additionally, I'm worried that the unclear timeline of this project—both before, during, and after its completion—will create a prolonged and detrimental noise burden on the surrounding residential properties. A variety of recent studies have reached the conclusion that environmental noise, including construction, negatively impacts hearing, disrupts natural sleep patterns, and can increase blood pressure. Though often overlooked in projects of this kind, noise is inherently physiologically stressful on the people who are subjected to it. And the increase in car and foot traffic resulting from this building will add significantly to the ambient noise of this block.

Thank you for taking these concerns into consideration and recognizing my opposition to the proposal.

Regards,

Craig Eley
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Digital Producer, To the Best of Our Knowledge
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