

Encanto Village Planning Committee September 10, 2018

**Hearing Date** 

Planning CommissionHearing DateOctober 4, 2018Request From:P-1 (2.94 acres)Request To:R-5 H-R (2.94 acres)

Proposed Use Multifamily high-rise residential
Location Northeast corner of 7th Street and

**Thomas Road** 

Owner Phoenix Country Club

Applicant AGS, LLC

**Representative** Larry S. Lazarus

**Staff Recommendation** Denial as filed, approval of R-5, with

stipulations.

If approved R-5 H-R, an additional mitigating height stipulation is

recommended.

General Plan Conformity				
General Plan Land Use Map Designation		Residential 1 to 2 dwelling units per acre		
Street Map Classification	Thomas Road	Arterial	Varies, 42- to 65- foot north half street	
	7th Street	Major Arterial	Varies, 40- to 65- foot east half street	

CONNECT PEOPLE & PLACES CORE VALUE; CORES, CENTERS, AND CORRIDORS; LAND USE PRINICIPLE: Locate land uses with the greatest height and most intense uses within village cores, centers and corridors based on village character, land use needs, and transportation system capacity.

The request does not comply with this land use principle. The site is not in a village core, a village center, or in a corridor identified for greater height and intensity.

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CONNECT PEOPLE & PLACES CORE VALUE; TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT; LAND USE PRINICIPLE: Continue the development of Central Avenue as the city's transit spine and the principal street of Phoenix, concentrating the maximum intensity of commercial office and retail uses downtown.

The request does not comply with this land use principle. The site is not on Central Avenue.

CONNECT PEOPLE & PLACES CORE VALUE; TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT; LAND USE PRINICIPLE: Develop land use and design regulations governing land close to transit centers and light rail stations, to maximize the potential for ridership.

The request does not comply with this land use principle. The site is not within the Midtown TOD District, is over one-half mile from a light rail station, and although there is bus transit on both 7th Street and on Thomas Road, the proposed design will not maximize the potential for transit ridership.

CONNECT PEOPLE & PLACES CORE VALUE; OPPORTUNITY SITES; LAND USE PRINICIPLE: Support reasonable levels of increased intensity, respectful of local conditions and surrounding neighborhoods.

The R-5 H-R zoning district is not a reasonable level of increased intensity in this location; however, the R-5 zoning district provides a reasonable level of increased intensity for a subject site that is along two major thoroughfares and adjacent to a future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) route.

CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBORHOODS CORE VALUE; CERTAINTY AND CHARACTER; LAND USE PRINCIPLE: Protect residential areas from concentrations of incompatible land uses that could change their character or destabilize land values.

The request does not comply with this land use principle. The request for this zoning at this location ignores policies which are designed to protect residential areas from incompatible land uses.

CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBORHOODS CORE VALUE; DIVERSE NEIGHBORHOODS; LAND USE PRINCIPLE: Include a mix of housing types and densities where appropriate within each village that support a broad range of lifestyles.

The subject site is appropriate for a mix of housing, such as multifamily residential development to support a range of lifestyles. The high-rise entitlement and density is not appropriate, but the R-5 zoning district is more appropriate as it is less intense, while still promoting a mix of housing types.

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CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBORHOODS CORE VALUE; CERTAINTY AND CHARACTER; LAND USE PRINCIPLE: New development and expansion or redevelopment of existing development in or near residential areas should be compatible with existing uses and consistent with adopted plans.

The location of the proposed high-rise development is outside of the Midtown TOD District and the Central Avenue Corridor. The request for a high-rise entitlement on this site in no way furthers the certainty and character of the surrounding area.

However, staff's recommendation of R-5 on the site provides an appropriate density and intensity of multifamily residential that is compatible with existing uses and development in the area.

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE DESERT CITY CORE VALUE; TREES AND SHADE; DESIGN PRINCIPLES: Integrate trees and shade into the design of new development and redevelopment projects throughout Phoenix.

The proposed development will incorporate a detached sidewalk with a double row of trees on each side of the sidewalk along Thomas Road and 7th Street, which, if properly planted and cared for, could provide ample shade for pedestrians.

### **Applicable Plans, Overlays, and Initiatives**

<u>Complete Streets Guiding Principles</u> – See Item #13 in the Background/Issues/Analysis Section.

<u>Tree and Shade Master Plan</u> – See Item #14 in the Background/Issues/Analysis Section.

Reimagine Phoenix – See Item #27 in the Background/Issues/Analysis Section.

Surrounding Land Uses / Zoning		
	Land Use	Zoning
On Site	Surface Parking Lot	P-1
North	lorth Surface Parking Lot and Single-Family Residential P-1 and R1-1	
South	uth Office and Former Gas Station C-O and C-1	
East	Surface Parking Lot, Phoenix Country Club, and Single-Family Residential	P-1, R-5, and R1-10
West	Office and Commercial Use	R-5 and C-1

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### R-5 H-R (Multifamily Residence District, High-Rise) Planned Residential Development Option

\*if variance required

required				
<u>Standards</u>	<u>Requirements</u>	Provisions on the Proposed site Plan		
Gross Acreage	-	2.94 acres		
Total Number of Units	450 sq ft lot area/unit = 284 units	Met - 125 units		
Density	145.20 du/acre	Met - 42.52 du/acre		
Lot Coverage	50%	*Not Met - 53.5%		
Maximum Building Height	250 feet	Met - 164 feet		
Minimum Building Setbacks				
Front (Thomas Road)	25 - 35 feet	*Not Met – 25 feet		
Side (7th Street)	25 feet	TBD		
Rear	15 feet	TBD		
Minimum Landscape Standards				
Street (7th Street)	Per 701.D.2.c.(3)., an area not less than five times the distance between the required front yard and the rear property line (in sq. ft).	TBD		
Street (Thomas Road)	Per 701.D.2.a.(1), an area not less than five times the width of the front yard (in sq. ft.)	TBD		
Interior Landscape Standards	5 feet, per 703.B.3.b	TBD		

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Common Areas/Open Space	Minimum 5% gross	*Not Met – 2.4%
	1.5 spaces per 1 or 2-	
	bedroom unit	
	(50 2-bedroom units)	
Parking	2.0 spaces per 3 or more- bedroom unit (75 3-bedroom units)	Unreserved Met - 234 spaces
		*Reserved Not Met –
	Required: 225 spaces (for unreserved parking)	234 spaces
	Required if parking is	
	Required if parking is reserved: 325 spaces	

### Background/Issues/Analysis

### REQUEST

- 1. This is a rezoning request for a multifamily high-rise residential development on a 2.94-acre site located at the northeast corner of 7th Street and Thomas Road. The current zoning is P-1 (Passenger Automobile Parking, Limited) and is a surface parking lot for the Phoenix Country Club. The request is to rezone the subject site to R-5 H-R (Multifamily Residence District, High-Rise and High-Density District) for a multifamily high-rise residential development with a building height of 164 feet and 15 stories.
- 2. In 1964, the site was previously rezoned (Z-48-64) from R-5 (Multifamily Residence District) to P-1 (Passenger Automobile Parking, Limited) to allow for a parking lot to serve the Phoenix Country Club.

### **GENERAL PLAN**

3. The site has a General Plan Land Use Map designation of Residential 1 to 2 dwelling units per acre. The proposal is not consistent with the General Plan Land Use Map designation; however, an amendment is not required as the subject site is less than 10 acres.

### SURROUNDING LAND USE AND ZONING

4. Located to the north is a surface parking lot for the Phoenix Country Club, zoned for P-1 (Passenger Automobile Parking, Limited) and single-family residential properties zoned R1-10 (Single-Family Residence District). To the south, across Thomas Road, is an office that is zoned C-O (Commercial Office), and a vacant gas station that is zoned C-1 (Neighborhood Retail). A surface parking lot, zoned P-1 (Passenger Automobile Parking, Limited), the Phoenix Country Club, zoned R-5, (Multifamily Residences District), and single-family residences, zoned R1-10 (Single-Family Residence District), are located to the east of the site. To the

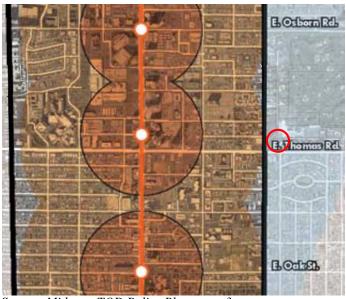
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west, across 7th Street, is a vacant commercial use that is zoned C-1 and an existing office that is zoned R-5 (Multifamily Residences District).

5. The site is located outside of the Midtown TOD (Transit-Oriented Development)

District. The boundary of the District ends on the west side 7th Street and the subject site is located on the east side of 7th Street.

The Midtown TOD District is guided by the Midtown TOD Policy Plan. This Plan was developed as a part of the ReinventPHX process. ReinventPHX is a collaborative partnership between the City of Phoenix, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Arizona State University, St. Luke's Health



Source: Midtown TOD Policy Plan, page 3

Initiatives (now Vitalyst Health Foundation) and numerous other organizations committed to developing walkable, opportunity-rich communities connected to light rail. Reinvent PHX created action plans for districts along the light rail system. The plans establish a community-based vision for the future and identify investment strategies to improve the quality of life for all residents. This process establishes a new, transit-oriented model for more urban development concentrated along the city's light rail system.

The intent of the Midtown TOD Policy Plan is to encourage active uses and additional intensity and density within the light rail corridor, particularly along the quarter mile area around Central Avenue and have gradually less intensity of development toward the east to 7th Street and to the west to 7th Avenue (one-half mile distance from light rail).

The intensity and height proposed is not appropriate in this location that is located outside of the Midtown TOD District and the Central Avenue light rail corridor.

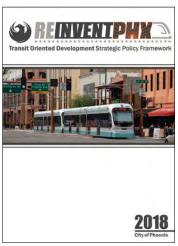
6. Prior to the adoption of the Transit Oriented Development Strategic Policy Framework in 2013, policy guidance for buildings greater than four stories outside of the downtown or a Village Core was quite limited. The General Plan advocated for greater heights and intensities near high capacity transit. There was no further distinction in terms of appropriate context for this one-size-fits-all policy. The Policy Framework utilized documented research and national best

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practices to advocate for an urban form with an efficient, high performance growth pattern. The framework is intended to improve the investment environment around key nodes in the Phoenix transit network and guide sustainable urban development to benefit all residents. Smart decisions provide cost savings for both residents and government, stronger neighborhoods, improved health and new business opportunities.

The request for high rise development at the proposed location is in conflict with the careful work of the Strategic Policy Framework, whereby greater intensities are to be directed to develop in appropriate locations at context-appropriate heights. Additionally, the proposal is in conflict with the policies in the General Plan which direct greater heights to village cores.

6. The Transit Oriented Development Strategic Policy Framework is part of the city's General Plan which identified planning typologies to describe urban environments. The identified environment for the Central Avenue and Thomas Road light rail station area is Regional Center. A Center is a term used to describe a concentration of activity and intensity within the City. The Regional Center place type is characterized by high intensity with building heights typically from five to 10 stories with incentive heights of up to 20 stories.



Land uses may include office employment, industry cluster, high and midrise living and supportive retail. Greater heights and intensities are encouraged within the 1/4-mile area around the light rail stations and building height and intensity beyond the 1/4-mile area can be considered when it is at the lower end of the recommended building heights in the Regional Center place type.

However, the subject site is located outside of the 1/2-mile area of the light rail and therefore the proposed height of 164 feet and 15 stories is not appropriate at this location. This intensity and height is more appropriate along the Central Avenue light rail corridor.

7. The aerial photo below shows the current development patterns along Central Avenue, Thomas Road and between Central Avenue and 7th Street. The subject site is identified in the red square. The image shows that there is an intensity of high-rise buildings located along the Central Avenue light rail corridor between Central Avenue and 3rd Street. Building heights are reduced with proximity to single-family residential development, located toward the east.

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Source: Google Earth, Planning and Development Department

- 8. There is one development, Crystal Point Condominiums, located north of the Phoenix Country Club that is an outlier in the area. The 18-story high-rise condominium development was built in 1990, but the zoning of the property to allow the achieved height was entitled in 1963 (Z-50-63), which was prior to the construction of the light rail corridor and prior the adoption of the Midtown TOD Policy Plan and the Transit Oriented Development Strategic Policy Framework. The Crystal Point development is not a valid basis for a precedent in support of approval of this request. In the intervening decades, planning policies have evolved to reflect sound planning principles for context-sensitive development, as well as the need for a development form which allows government to provide services in a much more cost-efficient manner.
- 9. The Transportation 2050 (T2050) Plan designates Thomas Road, from 44th Street to 91st Avenue, as a future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) route and will run adjacent to the subject site. With the addition of a BRT route along Thomas Road, some additional intensification beyond the current zoning of P-1 is appropriate. Therefore, staff is recommending approval of R-5 on this location, which would allow a height up to 4 stories or 48 feet and a maximum density of 52.20 dwelling units per acre, with bonus.

There have been other recent rezoning cases that have occurred just outside of the TOD Policy Plan areas (Z-69-16, Z-39-15, Z-127-14, and Z-38-15). The heights proposed in these rezoning cases that were greater than 56 feet were approved through a Planned Unit Development (PUD). The following table outlines the locations and maximum heights allowed in these rezoning cases.

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Rezoning Case	Location	Approved Max. Height
Z-69-16 The Local PUD	Southwest Corner of Osborn Road and 7th Avenue	60 feet
Z-39-15 Alta Camelback PUD	Southeast Corner of 7th Street and Camelback Road	60 feet
Z-38-15 Peak 16 PUD	Approximately 99 feet east of the southeast corner of 16th Street and Colter Street	64 feet
Z-127-14 Crescent Highland PUD	Southwest corner of 16th Street and Highland Avenue	69 feet

The approved PUD's offered additional amenities and enhanced building form at the ground level, which activated the streetscape and pedestrian experience and warranted modest height increases beyond what is permitted in R-5 zoning.

The proposed development, in contrast, does not provide the desired form to activate the ground floor level nor does it contribute to the adjacent transit corridor. The approval of R-5 H-R on this subject site constitutes "spot zoning" as there is little adjacent context to support the height and intensity at this location.

10. Staff is recommending denial of the R-5 H-R (Multifamily Residence District, High-Rise and High-Density District) rezoning request.

However, staff is recommending approval of R-5 (Multifamily Residence District) with the stipulations (No. 1 through No. 16) that are described in this staff report. These stipulations provide guidance for compatible, pedestrian-scale development on the site.

In the event that the R-5 H-R rezoning request is approved, staff recommends that the stipulations (No. 1 through No. 17) apply in addition to a height mitigating stipulation (No. 18).

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### SITE PLAN / ELEVATIONS ANALYSIS

11. The site plan incorporates the surface parking lot located to the north of the site, however that area is not included in the rezoning request.

Vehicular access to and from the subject site are from two existing driveways, one on Thomas Road and one on 7th Street. In order to avoid additional driveways on the site, staff is recommending a stipulation that limits vehicular access to the existing driveways. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 1.



Source: Conceptual Site Plan provided by applicant

The development will have two stories of parking. There will be a pool deck on top of the 2nd level, located toward the west of the building and the 15-story high rise units located on the east side of the building. The site plan shows the lobby entrance will be accessed from the east side of the building.

12. The proposed building elevations are for a 164 foot, 15-story high-rise mulitfamily residential tower. The elevations that were provided do not include detailed plans regarding the design of the building: however, staff has recommended some stipulations to encourage pedestrian scale design to avoid blank building facades along the streetscape.



Source: Conceptual Elevations provided by applicant

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Staff recommends that ground floor blank walls visible from the public sidewalk shall not exceed 20 linear feet without being interrupted by a window, door, or variation in building treatment or design.

In addition, staff is recommending that the building façades be designed to provide a sense of human scale at the ground level by providing clear architectural distinction between the ground level and all additional stories.

Reflective and mirrored glass is prohibited as it contributes greatly to the urban heat island and adversely affects the public domain where people will be walking.

These are addressed in Stipulation Nos. 2, 3, and 4.

### COMPLETE STREETS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

13. In 2014, the City of Phoenix City Council adopted the Complete Streets Guiding Principles. The principles are intended to promote improvements that provide an accessible, safe, connected transportation system to include all modes, such as bicycles, pedestrians, transit, and vehicles. To this end, staff is recommending detached sidewalks along Thomas Road and 7th Street. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 5.

### TREE AND SHADE MASTER PLAN

14. The provision of shade trees in the landscape area is an essential component for contributing toward the goals of the Tree and Shade Master Plan. The inclusion of trees increases thermal comfort for pedestrians and reduces the urban heat island effect. The proposed development includes landscape enhancements and a detached sidewalk along Thomas Road and 7th Street. There will be a staggered double row of shade trees planted on each side of the sidewalks, which, if planted and cared for properly, should provide ample shade for pedestrians. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 6.

In addition, staff is recommending a stipulation that a minimum of 75% of the sidewalk along Thomas Road and 7th Street be shaded by trees. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 7.



Source: Conceptual Landscape Plan provided by applicant

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15. There is an existing fence located around the subject site and the entire Phoenix Country Club property.



Source: Google Maps, street view

To prevent the subject site from remaining isolated to the Country Club, staff is recommending a stipulation that no fence be placed between the streets (7th Street and Thomas Road) and the buildings. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 8.

16. To encourage connectivity to the sidewalks, staff is recommending a stipulation that a minimum of two building entrances, one on 7th Street, and one on Thomas Road, connect to the publicly accessible sidewalks. The pedestrian walkways to these building entrances should be made of decorative pavement. The pedestrian pathway from 7th Street should be connected from the bus stop location.

In addition, the pedestrian-oriented building entrances must be defined as such with a pedestrian scale and use of distinctive materials and architectural elements. These are addressed in Stipulation Nos. 9 and 10.

- 17. Staff is recommending that all loading, service, and refuse areas be located interior to the site and be screened with walls, trellises, planting, mounds, or by integration into the design of the building. These facilities can be located within the parking garage area. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 11.
- 18. The development is proposing a parking garage that will be visible from the public-right-of-way on 7th Street and Thomas Road. Therefore, staff has recommended a stipulation that any portion of the parking garage visible from the public right-of-way shall incorporate an art feature intended to screen the parking garage, while also providing an interesting and engaging feature at the ground level. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 12.

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19. Providing secured bicycle parking for residents and parking for guests of the development is supportive of multimodal travel options. Secured bicycle parking can be provided in bicycle lockers or in locked bicycle rooms. The applicant will work with Planning and Development Department staff through the site development review process to determine locations for both types of bicycle parking as well as the manner in which the secured parking will be provided. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 13.





Secured bicycle parking can be accomplished through the use of individual lockers and/or the establishment of secured bicycle rooms.

### COMMUNITY INPUT

20. At the time this staff report was completed, there have been 20 letters submitted in opposition to this rezoning request and no letters in favor of the request. Eighteen of the letters are from residents, one is from the Phoenix Historic Neighborhood Coalition, and one is from the La Hacienda Historic District.

Community concerns include the following:

- High-rise buildings should be along the Central Avenue corridor, within the TOD Policy Plan district, and it is an inappropriate height for the area.
- Increased traffic along Thomas Road and 7th Street
- Changes the character of the adjacent single-family residential neighborhoods
- Privacy concerns with adjacent single-family residences
- The design does not interact with the public right-of-way at the street level
- The design does not contribute to transit ridership
- Concern for increased flooding because of overbuilding
- Lack of affordable and inclusionary housing options in Phoenix

The list above is a summary of the community concerns; however, the letters that were received are attached to this staff report.

### INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMENTS

21. The City of Phoenix Street Transportation Department has determined that the developer must submit a Traffic Impact Study to the Street Transportation Department. No preliminary approval of plans shall be granted until the study is reviewed and approved by the City of Phoenix Street Transportation Department. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 14.

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- 22. The City of Phoenix Public Transit Department has the following comments regarding the request:
  - Public Transit Department will require dedication of right-of-way, bus stop pad, and bus bay on northbound 7th Street, north of Thomas Road. The bus bay shall be compliant with City of Phoenix Standard Detail P1256.
  - Bus stop pad shall be compliant with City of Phoenix Standard Detail P1261 with a depth of 14 feet.
  - Bus stop pad and bay shall be placed from the intersection of 7th Street and Thomas Road according to City of Phoenix Standard Detail P1258.
  - Reconstruction will be required if any of the aforementioned items are not in compliance with the specified standard details.

These are addressed in Stipulation No. 15.

- 23. The City of Phoenix Aviation Department has noted that the property is in the Public Airport Disclosure area. This area may be subject to overflights of aircraft operating at the Airport. People are often irritated by repeated overflights regardless of the actual sound level at the overflight site. Therefore, a Notice to Prospective Purchasers, which follows policy regarding properties in the City of Phoenix underlying the flight patterns of Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, is required. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 16.
- 24. The Water Services Department has noted that based on existing/known conditions, there are no water or sewer infrastructure concerns with the proposed zoning.
- 25. The City of Phoenix Floodplain Management division of the Street Transportation Department has determined that this parcel is not in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), but is located in a Shaded Zone X, on panel 2205 L of the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) dated October 16, 2013.
- 26. Fire prevention does not anticipate any issues with this request. The site or/and building(s) shall comply with the Phoenix Fire Code. However, the water supply (gpm and psi) to this site is unknown. Additional water supply may be required to meet the required fire flow per the Phoenix Fire Code.

### **OTHER**

- 27. As part of the Reimagine Phoenix initiative, the City of Phoenix is committed to increasing the waste diversion rate to 40 percent by 2020 and to better manage its solid waste resources. Section 716 of the Phoenix Zoning Ordinance establishes standards to encourage the provision of recycling containers for multifamily, commercial and mixed-use developments meeting certain criteria. The provision of recycling containers is not addressed in this development.
- 28. The site has not been identified as being archaeologically sensitive. In the event archaeological materials are encountered during construction, all ground disturbing activities must cease within 33-foot radius of the discovery and the

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City of Phoenix Archaeology Office must be notified immediately and allowed time to properly assess the materials. This is addressed in Stipulation No. 16.

29. Development and use of the site is subject to all applicable codes and ordinances. Zoning approval does not negate other ordinance requirements. Other formal actions such as, but not limited to, zoning adjustments and abandonment me be required.

### **Findings**

- 1. The proposal is not consistent with the General Plan Land Use map designation of Residential 1 to 2 dwelling units per acre.
- 2. The proposed rezoning is not in conformance with the multiple General Plan goals and policies adopted to guide development intensity and height, and constitutes spot zoning.
- 3. The proposed development is outside of the Midtown TOD District and located outside of the Central Avenue light rail corridor and therefore is inappropriate in this location.
- 4. The site is along a future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) route, therefore, intensification to R-5 zoning is appropriate.

### **Stipulations**

- Access to the site shall be limited to the existing driveways from Thomas Road and 7th Street, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.
- 2. Ground floor blank walls visible from the public sidewalk shall not exceed 20 linear feet without being interrupted by a window, door, or variation in building treatment or design, per Section 1305.2.a(2) of the Zoning Ordinance, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.
- 3. All buildings over four stories in height shall be designed with a base that is differentiated from the remainder of the building in order to relate to the street. The base may be between one and four stories in height, and shall be scaled to the immediate context, per Section 1209.A.7.a of the Zoning Ordinance, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.
- 4. Mirrored and reflective glass is prohibited.
- 5. The sidewalks along Thomas Road and 7th Street shall be detached with a minimum five-foot wide landscape strip located between the sidewalk and back of curb, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.

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- 6. A double row of trees (a minimum of 50 percent 2-inch caliper and 50 percent 3-inch caliper) spaced 20 feet on center shall be provided along Thomas Road and 7th Street, as approved by the Planning and Development Department. The rows shall be placed parallel on either side of the sidewalk and shall be staggered to provide maximum shading. The trees planted along Thomas Road shall be consistent with the tree species that currently exist along the street, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.
- 7. A minimum of 75% of the sidewalk along Thomas Road and 7th Street shall be shaded at tree maturity per the requirements of Section 1304.F.1 in the Zoning Ordinance, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.
- 8. There shall be no fence placed between the streets (7th Street, Thomas Road) and buildings, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.
- 9. The developer shall provide a minimum of two building entrances, one on 7th Street and one on Thomas Road, that directly connects to the publicly accessible sidewalk adjacent to the street. All pedestrian entrances shall be defined by pedestrian-oriented scale and the use of distinctive materials and architectural elements per Section 1305.3.a in the Zoning Ordinance, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.
- 10. The developer shall provide two pedestrian walkways, comprised of decorative paving: one that connects the sidewalk at the transit stop on 7th Street to a building entrance, and one which connects the sidewalk along Thomas Road to a building entrance, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.
- 11. Loading, service, and refuse areas shall be located to the interior of the site and shall be screened from view with walls, trellises, planting, mounds, or by integration into the design of the building. Decorative elements, variation in materials, and articulation shall be used, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.
- 12. Any portion of the parking garage visible from the public right-of-way shall incorporate an art feature(s) intended to screen the parking garage, while also providing an interesting and engaging feature at the ground level, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.
- 13. The developer shall install secured bicycle parking at 0.25 spaces for each residential unit and a minimum of four inverted U-bicycle racks for

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guests located near entrances to the building, installed per the requirements of Section 1307.H.4 of the Zoning Ordinance, as approved by the Planning and Development Department.

- 14. The applicant shall submit a Traffic Impact Study to the City of Phoenix Street Transportation Department and the Planning and Development Department prior to preliminary site plan review. The applicant shall be responsible for any dedications and required improvements as recommended by the approved traffic study, as approved by the Planning and Development Department and the Streets Transportation Department.
- 15. The developer shall dedicate right-of-way and construct a bus bay (City of Phoenix Standard Detail P1256) and bus pad with a minimum depth of 14 feet (City of Phoenix Standard Detail P1261) along northbound 7th Street, north of Thomas Road. The bus stop pad and bay shall be placed from the intersection of 7th Street and Thomas Road according to City of Phoenix Standard Detail P1258, as approved by the Public Transit Department.
- 16. The property owner shall record a Notice to Prospective Purchasers of Proximity to Airport in order to disclose the existence, and operational characteristics of Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX) to future owners or tenants of the property. The form and content of such documents shall be according to the templates and instructions provided which have been viewed and approved by the City Attorney.
- 17. In the event archaeological materials are encountered during construction, the developer shall immediately cease all ground-disturbing activities within a 33-foot radius of the discovery, notify the City Archaeologist, and allow time for the Archaeology Office to properly assess the materials.

### If R-5 H-R is approved, the following height mitigating stipulation is also recommended to the above stipulations.

18. The maximum building height shall be 60 feet.

### Writer

Hannah Bleam September 4, 2018

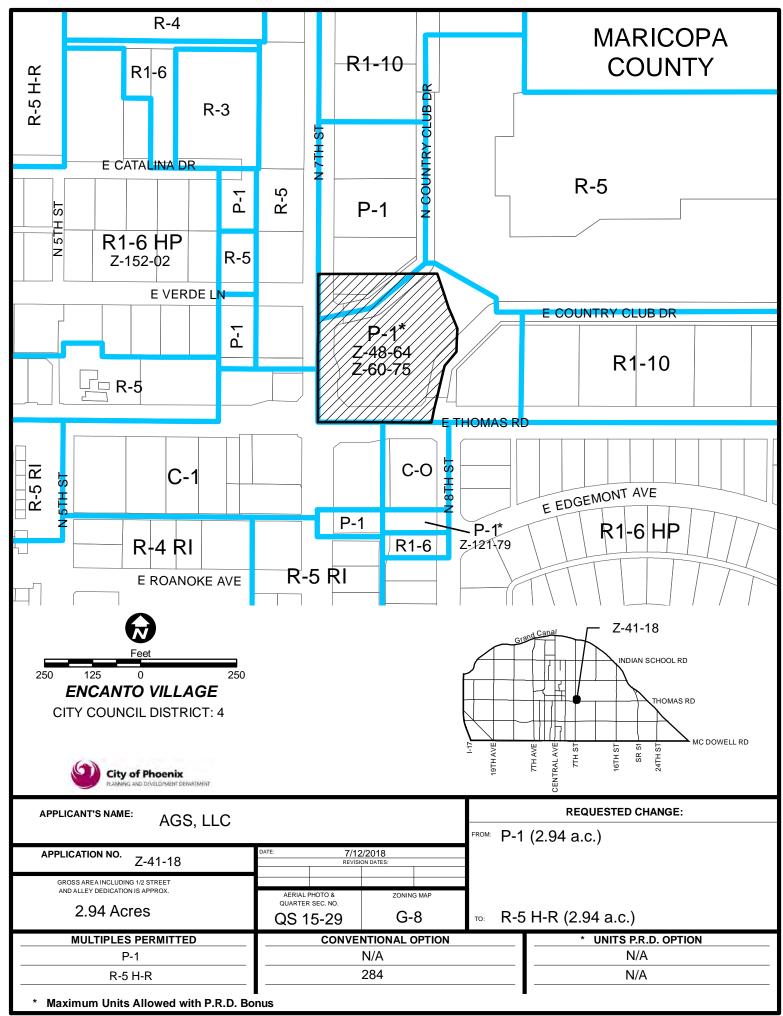
### Team Leader

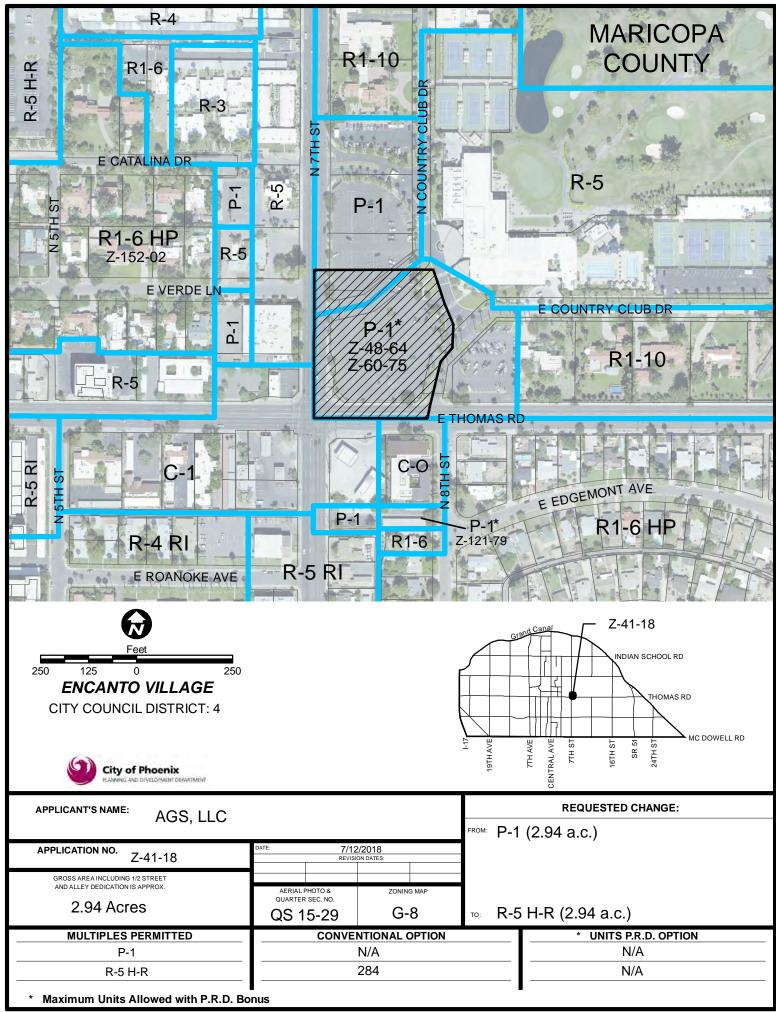
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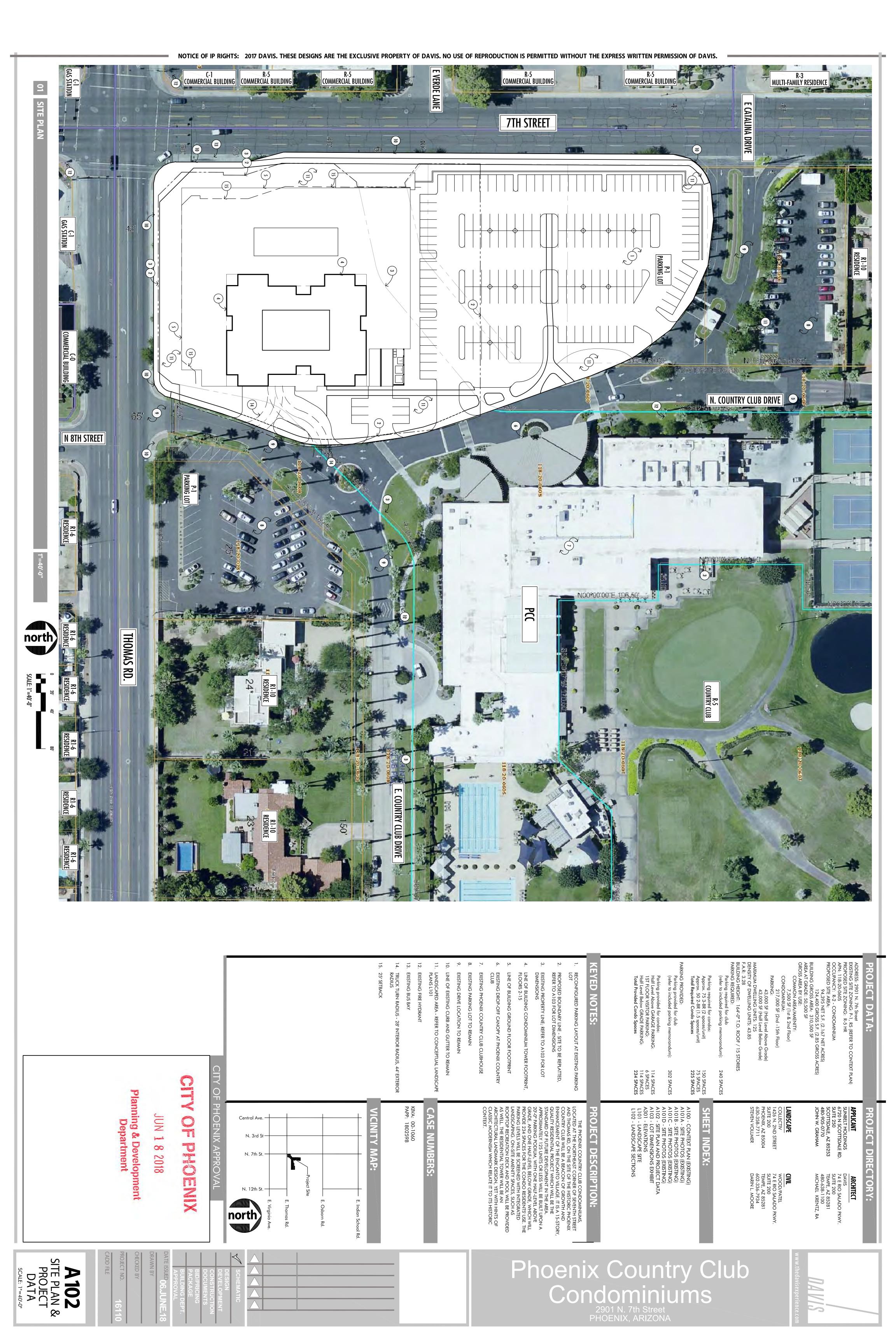
### **Exhibits**

Sketch Map Aerial Staff Report: Z-41-18-4 September 4, 2018 Page 18 of 18

Site Plan date stamped June 18, 2018 Elevations date stamped June 18, 2018 Conceptual Landscape plan date stamped June 18, 2018 Community Input (40 pages)



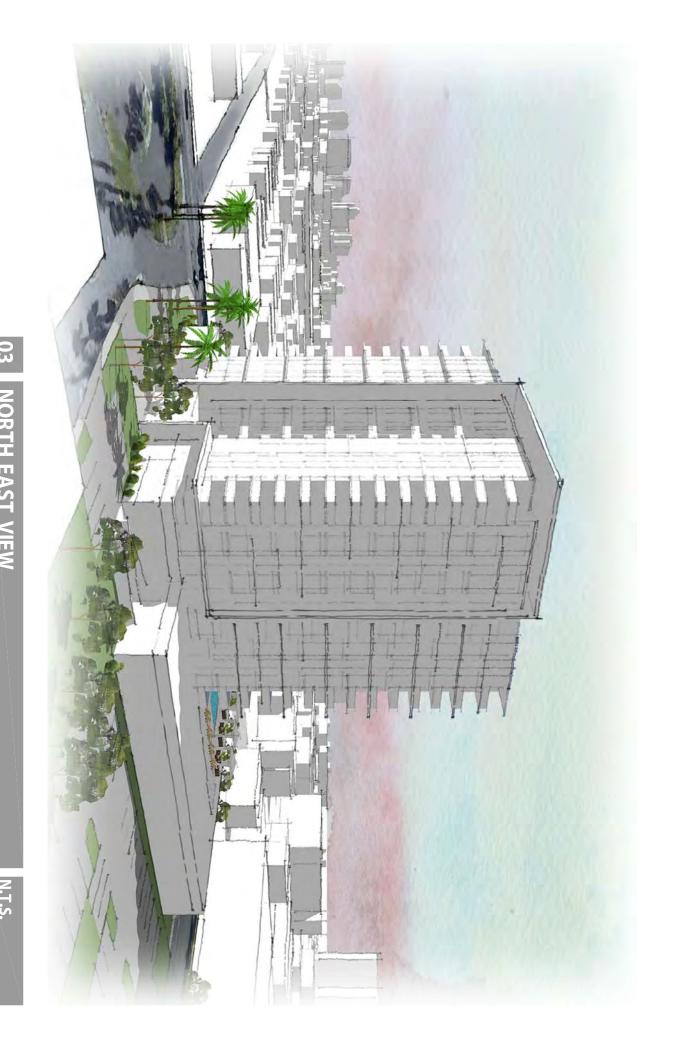


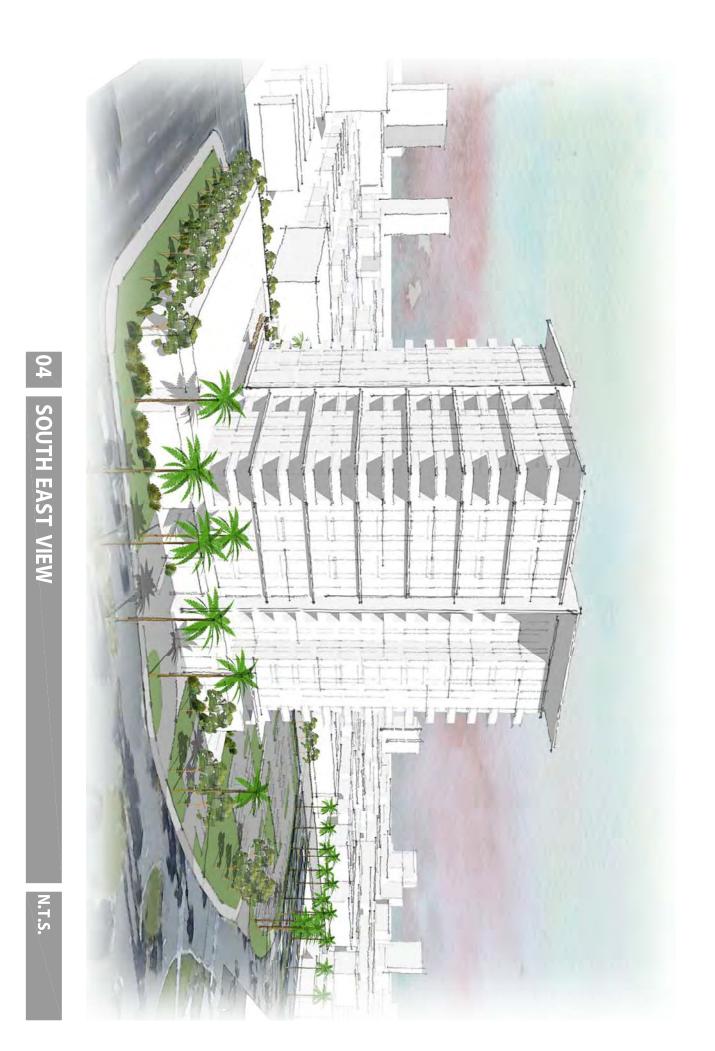


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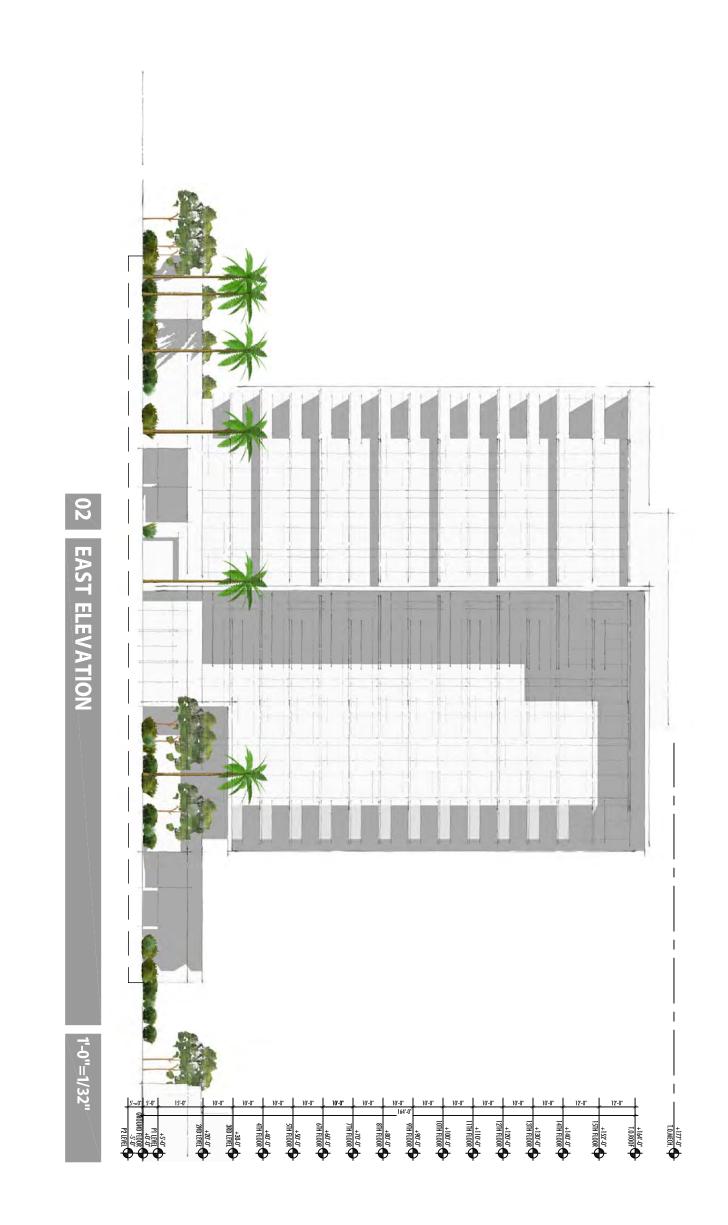
Planning & Development
Department











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From: Kristy Brown
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2018 3:16 PM
To: Hannah Bleam

**Subject:** Fwd: Case number Z-41-18

Hello,

COMMITTEE? I sent the email below but I inadvertently forgot some very important information. Could you PLEASE DELIVER THIS LETTER IMMEDIATELY TO EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF THE ENCANTO VILLAGE PLANNING

Thank you, Kristy Brown

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kristy Brown**Date: Sun, Aug 26, 2018 at 3:12 PM

Subject: Fwd: Case number Z-41-18

To: < hannah.Bleam@phoenix.gov>

Hello,

am staunchly opposed for the following reasons: I am writing to let you know of my strong opposition to rezoning Case Number Z-41-18. I live just south of the project at

- 1. Increase in traffic along already extremely busy streets. Seventh street cannot handle more traffic
- 2. Outside the light rail zoning district. Walking to light rail from 7th street is not an option for at least 4 months of the year due to weather (and should be built close to grocery stores so that walking to get basic necessities is easy and convenient. practically even more months than that). High rise buildings should be built closer to Central where the light rail is easily accessible. Also, they

they invite guests over. Where will the guests park? 3. PARKING will be a issue. Parking in central Phoenix is already an enormous problem. There might be enough parking for residents but what if

any street parking options for those who have large vehicles or want to have guests over. There were a handful of visitor spots at Tapestry but they the spaces were too narrow and small. He always had to find street parking, as did the guests we invited over. The proposed complex will not have not be as convenient as previously. I was wrong. We don't use the light rail anymore as it is just too far to walk comfortably. In addition, parking at streets at all costs due to the massive traffic snarls. When we moved to 9th street, I thought that we would still use the light rail even though it might were always taken. I do not feel the proposed complex is a good fit for the corner of 7th Street and Thomas. Tapestry was always problematic if we invited friends or family over. We had 2 spots in the garage but my husband could not park his truck there as foundation for my strong views now. We loved living on Central because we could stay away from 7th Street and 7th Avenue. We avoided those My husband and I moved to this neighborhood after living in a midrise on Central (Tapestry) for a couple of years. That experience has been the

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for listening to my concerns



From:
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2018 7:04 PM
To: Hannah Bleam

Hannah Bleam Robert Warnicke Phoenix Country

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Subject: Phoenix Country Club Rezoning Case #Z-41-18 Northeast corner of 7th Street / Thomas Rd

Ms. Bleam:

I live within a stone's throw of the Phoenix Country Club and stand in firm opposition to the above referenced rezoning

plan that will create, making one wonder why we need a Village Planning Committee? for this location; it's totally incompatible with the surrounding neighborhood, and needs to be on Central Avenue and the Light Rail Corridor. If approved, the building height will open the flood gates to developers to throw up other high rises wherever they can get city approval and financing. What a hodgepodge of a city The Phoenix Country Club is experiencing financial distress. Their model of exclusionary membership is no longer relevant. This proposed project is simply wrong

creating a cement eyesore developer. Homeowners in this neighborhood are threatened by a ridiculously-tall monstrosity looming over our yards, compromising our property values, and Years ago the City of Phoenix was all about dubbing Verde Lane and Catalina Drive between 3rd and 7th Streets as La Hacienda Historic District. Now it looks like they're interested in selling us out. The only people this proposed project benefits is the Phoenix Country Club, which doesn't even pay property tax, and its

Respectfully submitted,

Carpenter

From: Carol Crockett

Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 12:02 PM

To: Hannah Bleam

Subject:

Z-41-18

I'm writing in opposition to the rezoning Case Number Z-41-18 for the following reasons:

- Seventh Street is already a high-volume north/south axis that is dangerous due to the middle lane that's used for alternate traffic flow both north-bound and south-bound depending on the time of day. Additional traffic on 7th will be result from an approved re-development of Third Street, now a reliever for 7th Street traffic from Indian School Road south.
- and I am opposed to that happening in the Coronado district. Neighborhoods like Willo are cut off from eastern access to central Phoenix by large apartment/condo complexes and commercial buildings,
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Carol Crockett

From: bahney dedolph

Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 7:28 PM

To: Hannah Bleam

**To:** Hannah Bleam public hearing on 8/28

I am interested in more information about the proposed development on 16th Street and Palm--there is a public hearing on 8/28, but i am not able to

streets has become very congested. Will this development contribute to further traffic problems? I live in Coronado and am worried about population density. We have huge developments being built all around us in Coronado. Traffic on major

surrounding neighborhoods. we need to have green space available for ground water absorption and recreational opportunities. It appears to me that I am also worried about ground water absorption and increased flooding because we are allowing overbuilding on lots in my neighborhood and the city is not taking this into consideration when approving renovations and new building

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Are there plans available for this proposed project that we can review? If so, how would i access them?

Thank you for taking the time to answer my questions.

Bahney Dedolph

Sent: From: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 5:39 PM kathy gorman

₽ Subject: Hannah Bleam

Case Number Z-41-18

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- \* High rise Height is outside the Central Corridor It is a bad precedent for properties along 7th Street North & South as well as properties on Thomas Rd.
- \* Project does not represent a true revitalization of this corner, since plans show it will be "Walled Off" with no retail/commercial space
- \* Project does not promote a "walkable city plan" for it is outside the zoning district for the light rail

It is not suitable for this location or the surrounding neighborhoods Also this project will have a major negative impact on the traffic flow in an area that is already high traffic and congested.

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Respectively,

Katherine Gorman



From: John Grimmer

Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2018 7:07 PM

To: Hannah Bleam

Cc:

Subject:

High rise

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I object to this hole thing and have to close. I have to go mow my lawn.

John F. Grimmer

From:

Sent: Monday, September 03, 2018 2:56 PM

To: Hannah Bleam

Subject: High rise Density Zoning District

Dear Ms Bleam,

I live in the La Hacienda Historic District very close to the proposed high rise development at the Phoenix Country Club.

significant congestion and adding a residence so close to that location will no doubt create greater risks for both pedestrians and vehicle traffic. I am opposed to the development because of the inevitable increase in traffic at the intersection of 7th Ave. and Thomas Rd. That location already experiences

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I hope you will consider these concerns in a serious manner.

Respectfully,

Tom Haines

Sent: <u>ö</u> From: Saturday, August 25, 2018 1:18 PM Mary Horton

Subject: Hannah Bleam

Opposition to rezoning case Z-41-18

neighborhood in order to avoid the traffic at 7th Street and Thomas Rd. Most of the streets in Country Club Park have no sidewalks, which means School. that people have to walk their dogs in the street, push baby strollers in the street. The teenagers walk in the street to get to and from North High I am totally opposed to the rezoning case Z-41-18. My address in Country Club Park is Because 7th Street is used as an unofficial part time expressway 5 days a week, there is a lot of traffic congestion. People cut through my Nobody wants a high rise looking down into their front yard and backyard. There is a high rise corridor in Phoenix and this is outside of it. feet protects the value of property in the historic neighborhoods near 7th Street. A 15 story high rise will negatively impact the value of my home. . The building height restriction of 48

Thank you. Please see that a copy of my opposition to the rezoning case Z-41-18 is given to each and every member of the Encanto Village Planning Committee.

Mary S. Horton Respectfully,

From: Debra Lyman Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 3:45 PM
To: Hannah Bleam

Hannah Bleam Opposition to Case N

Subject:

Opposition to Case No: Z-41-18 OPPOSITION

# Dear Ms. Bleam

neighborhood causing many changes to the community I live in. Other reasons include: My name is Debra Lyman and I live at limited to 48 building height. Of course this will lead the way for future high rise buildings to be constructed around my be constructed. Apparently, the developer will be able to construct a 175 foot building in a zone or area that is currently for future high rise buildings that exceed the height restrictions if the zoning restrictions are changed to allow the building to Thomas. I am totally opposed to this project because of my reasons stated below. My biggest concern is precedent it sets (Z-41-18) of a 175 foot office building to be built in/on/around the parking lot at Phoenix County Club at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and , which is just south of the rezoning project

- 1) We have a walkable district south of Thomas Road and 7th Street. Although 7th Street is busy and at times surrounding it and block out the many palm trees that currently surround the Country Club. attractive and pleasing to the residents. It will be a tall building on top of the Phoenix Country Club with a wall the middle of the parking lot of the Country Club with no aesthetic or design enhancement to make it appear the area that looms over the rest of the buildings in the immediate area and will create a certain eye sore, planted in and 7th Street and Thomas will slowly and surely become another Central Corridor. This will be the only building in streets. I believe that with the construction of the 175 foot high building on Thomas and 7th Street, that will change on Windsor for 6 years and love my home, the feel of the park and community in the area and surrounding and congested like downtown traffic or the traffic near the Light Rail and Central Avenue and Thomas. I have lived despite 7th Street traffic that flows into the area on workday mornings and evenings, it does not feel claustrophobic lot of them being constructed in the 1940's. The park and my neighborhood are neighbor-friendly, walkable, and circle park that has houses surrounding it and many lovely streets lined with old houses and refurbished houses, a west to Central Avenue. If you continue toward my neighborhood east of 7th Street on Windsor you will run into a congested there is a feel of a neighborhood more than a business even though city buildings are just a few blocks
- 2) The construction and commercial residents that will probably fill the building once it is constructed, will cause a lot construction. This will continue and change the current traffic situation which is okay. of traffic in and around the area including vehicles crossing through the local streets south of Thomas to avoid

- $\omega$ Simply put its become personal. I can look out my living room, across the park, in and around the trees and see their windows. I want to preserve the scenic value of my neighborhood. change. With the construction of the 175 foot building, it will start the end of my view out my window and those who sunrises and sunsets. I can also see a couple buildings far in the distance. I love the view and I don't want that to live in my neighborhood. Especially those that look toward Thomas and who will view the building directly in front of
- 4) I don't understand why the building is being considered and zoning restrictions changed for this project. This away from areas that are reserved for high rise buildings like the Central Corridor. or changed for one building that is not in sync with the zoning restrictions in place, the community, walkability and be built in the area and outside the area of the Central Corridor. I do not think that the restrictions should be waived concerns me because I thought the current building height restrictions were put in place so that high rises would not

I hope that you my comments below will be considered along with the other letters and notices of opposition to Z-41-18.

PLEASE DELIVER THIS LETTER TO EVERY MEMBER OF THE ENCANTO VILLAGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thank you to you and all members of the Encanto Village Planning Committee for your attention.

Respectfully,



received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone 480-461-5300 or reply by e-mail and delete or discard the message. reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copy of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have The information contained in this e-mail message is attorney privileged and confidential information, intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the

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From: Susan Montgomery

**Sent:** Thursday, August 23, 2018 12:00 PM

Hannah Bleam

<u>⊹</u>

Subject: URGENT - Case Number Z-41-18 - Opposition to rezoning for High Rise Development

### Ms. Bleam:

I have been a resident of the Country Club Historic District for 17 years. I love my neighborhood. However, I am strongly opposed to the proposed concerns are numerous, I am particularly concerned as follows: rezoning referenced above, which would allow for a high rise development at the Phoenix Country club directly adjacent to my neighborhood. While my

- one that is a recognized historic district under the National Historic Preservation Act and applicable State Law. Out of Character for our Neighborhood. It is inappropriate to develop this high-rise multi-family building next to a purely residential neighborhood –
- (and we do not have sidewalks). I have almost been hit several times by cut through traffic and the additional residents will no doubt increase this increased cut through traffic. This is already a problem particularly during rush hour when many of us in the neighborhood are walking our dogs makes getting through any of the intersections near 7th and Thomas both time consuming and dangerous. Furthermore, I am worried about problem. Traffic. There is no doubt this development will substantially add to an already existing traffic problem, which in many instances in the winter times
- will set a precedent for future developments Precedent. Once a decision is made to allow the above referenced development, it will not only irreparably change the character of our area, but it
- inappropriate for a residential neighborhood. Privacy. The nature of this high rise will allow its residents to have a close up view of many of my neighbor's back yards and houses. This seems
- character of our neighborhood. The traffic increase will also impact air quality. <u>Noise and Air Quality</u>. The increase in traffic will result in an increase in ambient traffic noise, which further degrades the quiet enjoyment and
- property values in our area, particularly near the high rise(s). Property values. It is very likely the presence of this high rise, and potentially future high rise developments that it will pave the way for, will impact
- undoubtedly result in those houses being sold, and perhaps turned into rentals, Airbnb or other uses, whose owners will not maintain the character <u>Blight.</u> Finally, if the houses near the proposed high rise become disfavored by dedicated home owners due to the concerns noted above, this will integrity and safety of the neighborhood like committed homeowners would. This too is concerning.

I hope you will consider these concerns and the concerns of others at the upcoming hearing on this zoning request. The request should be denied

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at the number shown below

Susan B. Montgomery
Resident –

# PLEASE DELIVER THIS LETTER IMMEDIATELY TO EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF THE ENCANTO VILLAGE PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Regards,



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From: KATHERINE PANKOW

**Sent:** Sunday, August 26, 2018 3:20 PM

Hannah Bleam

헎

**Subject:** Phoenix Country Club Condominiums Case # Z-41-18

## Dear Ms. Bleam:

I am writing in strong opposition to the proposed development of the northeast corner of Thomas Road. and 7th Street

architectural relationship to the adjacent Phoenix Country Club and the historic neighborhood to the south, Country Club Park The developer states that the project is an "architectural landmark design" with a relationship to historic context, however this project has no

All High Rise development must be contained in the corridor between 7th Avenue and 7th Street, west of 7th Street is not in this area

Street. This High Rise will be an eyesore due to its proposed height and will allow more traffic into a problematic situation with the reverse lanes along 7th

I have owned a home in Country Club Park for almost 40 years. Improvements are certainly welcome along 7th Street. However, if completed to the height requested, this will only stick out like the proverbial "sore thumb"

# PLEASE DELIVER THIS LETTER IMMEDIATELY TO EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF THE ENCANTO VILLAGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Sincerely,

Kathy Pankow

From: Carol Crockett

Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 12:02 PM

To: Hannah Bleam

Subject:

Z-41-18

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It is not suitable for this location or the surrounding neighborhoods Also this project will have a major negative impact on the traffic flow in an area that is already high traffic and congested.

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Sent: Saturday, August 25, 2018 1:18 PM
To: Hannah Bleam

**Subject:** Opposition to rezoning case Z-41-18

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Thank you. Please see that a copy of my opposition to the rezoning case Z-41-18 is given to each and every member of the Encanto Village Planning Committee.

Respectfully, Mary S. Horton

Sent: From: <u>ö</u> Friday, August 31, 2018 3:45 PM Debra Lyman

Opposition to Case No: Z-41-18 OPPOSITION Hannah Bleam

Subject:

neighborhood causing many changes to the community I live in. Other reasons include: My name is Debra Lyman and I live at limited to 48 building height. Of course this will lead the way for future high rise buildings to be constructed around my be constructed. Apparently, the developer will be able to construct a 175 foot building in a zone or area that is currently for future high rise buildings that exceed the height restrictions if the zoning restrictions are changed to allow the building to Thomas. I am totally opposed to this project because of my reasons stated below. My biggest concern is precedent it sets (Z-41-18) of a 175 foot office building to be built in/on/around the parking lot at Phoenix County Club at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and , which is just south of the rezoning project

- 1) We have a walkable district south of Thomas Road and 7th Street. Although 7th Street is busy and at times surrounding it and block out the many palm trees that currently surround the Country Club. attractive and pleasing to the residents. It will be a tall building on top of the Phoenix Country Club with a wall the middle of the parking lot of the Country Club with no aesthetic or design enhancement to make it appear the area that looms over the rest of the buildings in the immediate area and will create a certain eye sore, planted in and 7th Street and Thomas will slowly and surely become another Central Corridor. This will be the only building in streets. I believe that with the construction of the 175 foot high building on Thomas and 7th Street, that will change on Windsor for 6 years and love my home, the feel of the park and community in the area and surrounding and congested like downtown traffic or the traffic near the Light Rail and Central Avenue and Thomas. I have lived despite 7th Street traffic that flows into the area on workday mornings and evenings, it does not feel claustrophobic lot of them being constructed in the 1940's. The park and my neighborhood are neighbor-friendly, walkable, and circle park that has houses surrounding it and many lovely streets lined with old houses and refurbished houses, a west to Central Avenue. If you continue toward my neighborhood east of 7th Street on Windsor you will run into a congested there is a feel of a neighborhood more than a business even though city buildings are just a few blocks
- 2) The construction and commercial residents that will probably fill the building once it is constructed, will cause a lot construction. This will continue and change the current traffic situation which is okay. of traffic in and around the area including vehicles crossing through the local streets south of Thomas to avoid

- $\omega$ Simply put its become personal. I can look out my living room, across the park, in and around the trees and see their windows. I want to preserve the scenic value of my neighborhood. change. With the construction of the 175 foot building, it will start the end of my view out my window and those who sunrises and sunsets. I can also see a couple buildings far in the distance. I love the view and I don't want that to live in my neighborhood. Especially those that look toward Thomas and who will view the building directly in front of
- 4) I don't understand why the building is being considered and zoning restrictions changed for this project. This away from areas that are reserved for high rise buildings like the Central Corridor. or changed for one building that is not in sync with the zoning restrictions in place, the community, walkability and be built in the area and outside the area of the Central Corridor. I do not think that the restrictions should be waived concerns me because I thought the current building height restrictions were put in place so that high rises would not

I hope that you my comments below will be considered along with the other letters and notices of opposition to Z-41-18.

PLEASE DELIVER THIS LETTER TO EVERY MEMBER OF THE ENCANTO VILLAGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thank you to you and all members of the Encanto Village Planning Committee for your attention.

Respectfully,



received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone 480-461-5300 or reply by e-mail and delete or discard the message. reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copy of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have The information contained in this e-mail message is attorney privileged and confidential information, intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the

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From: Susan Montgomery

**Sent:** Thursday, August 23, 2018 12:00 PM

Hannah Bleam

<u>⊹</u>

Subject: URGENT - Case Number Z-41-18 - Opposition to rezoning for High Rise Development

## Ms. Bleam:

I have been a resident of the Country Club Historic District for 17 years. I love my neighborhood. However, I am strongly opposed to the proposed concerns are numerous, I am particularly concerned as follows: rezoning referenced above, which would allow for a high rise development at the Phoenix Country club directly adjacent to my neighborhood. While my

- one that is a recognized historic district under the National Historic Preservation Act and applicable State Law. Out of Character for our Neighborhood. It is inappropriate to develop this high-rise multi-family building next to a purely residential neighborhood –
- (and we do not have sidewalks). I have almost been hit several times by cut through traffic and the additional residents will no doubt increase this increased cut through traffic. This is already a problem particularly during rush hour when many of us in the neighborhood are walking our dogs makes getting through any of the intersections near 7th and Thomas both time consuming and dangerous. Furthermore, I am worried about problem. Traffic. There is no doubt this development will substantially add to an already existing traffic problem, which in many instances in the winter times
- will set a precedent for future developments Precedent. Once a decision is made to allow the above referenced development, it will not only irreparably change the character of our area, but it
- inappropriate for a residential neighborhood. Privacy. The nature of this high rise will allow its residents to have a close up view of many of my neighbor's back yards and houses. This seems
- character of our neighborhood. The traffic increase will also impact air quality. <u>Noise and Air Quality</u>. The increase in traffic will result in an increase in ambient traffic noise, which further degrades the quiet enjoyment and
- property values in our area, particularly near the high rise(s). Property values. It is very likely the presence of this high rise, and potentially future high rise developments that it will pave the way for, will impact
- undoubtedly result in those houses being sold, and perhaps turned into rentals, Airbnb or other uses, whose owners will not maintain the character <u>Blight.</u> Finally, if the houses near the proposed high rise become disfavored by dedicated home owners due to the concerns noted above, this will integrity and safety of the neighborhood like committed homeowners would. This too is concerning.

I hope you will consider these concerns and the concerns of others at the upcoming hearing on this zoning request. The request should be denied

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at the number shown below

Susan B. Montgomery
Resident –

# PLEASE DELIVER THIS LETTER IMMEDIATELY TO EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF THE ENCANTO VILLAGE PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Regards,



arising from the use of this e-mail or attachments, or for any delay or errors or omissions in the contents which result from e-mail transmission. this e-mail. Although we have taken reasonable precautions to ensure no viruses are present in this e-mail, we accept no liability for any loss or damage please notify the sender immediately and delete the original and any copy or printout. Unintended recipients are prohibited from making any other use of NOTICE: This message is for the designated recipient only and contains confidential, attorney-client privileged information. If you have received it in error,

From: KATHERINE PANKOW

**Sent:** Sunday, August 26, 2018 3:20 PM

Hannah Bleam

헎

**Subject:** Phoenix Country Club Condominiums Case # Z-41-18

## Dear Ms. Bleam:

I am writing in strong opposition to the proposed development of the northeast corner of Thomas Road. and 7th Street

architectural relationship to the adjacent Phoenix Country Club and the historic neighborhood to the south, Country Club Park The developer states that the project is an "architectural landmark design" with a relationship to historic context, however this project has no

All High Rise development must be contained in the corridor between 7th Avenue and 7th Street, west of 7th Street is not in this area

Street. This High Rise will be an eyesore due to its proposed height and will allow more traffic into a problematic situation with the reverse lanes along 7th

I have owned a home in Country Club Park for almost 40 years. Improvements are certainly welcome along 7th Street. However, if completed to the height requested, this will only stick out like the proverbial "sore thumb"

# PLEASE DELIVER THIS LETTER IMMEDIATELY TO EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF THE ENCANTO VILLAGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Sincerely,

Kathy Pankow

## Phoenix Historic Neighborhoods Coalition



HISTORIC FRANKLIN SCHOOL

<u>Via Email</u> Encanto Village Planning Committee C/O Hannah.Bleam@phoenix.gov

## Re: Case No. Z-41-18: H-R at the Northeast Corner of 7th Street and Thomas Road

Dear Encanto Village Planning Committee Members,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Phoenix Historic Neighborhoods Coalition. We are a coalition of people who live throughout the historic neighborhoods within the City of Phoenix. We come together because we value the history of Phoenix and we seek to share our love of our City's historic neighborhoods to preserve not only the buildings but to also help stabilize and build strong communities.

We are distressed to witness the Applicant's entitlement overreach outside of the City core, the Central corridor, and outside the Midtown TOD Policy Plan. The Applicant relies on zoning entitlements from the 1960's to justify High Rise (H-R) High Density zoning on the northeast corner of 7th Street and Thomas Road. Although the applicant maintains that the property will only be redeveloped to a height of 175 feet, we have little confidence that such a stipulation will not be altered at a future date.

There are a significant number of single-family homes in the shadow of the proposed H-R zoning: to the North across a parking lot (homes on North Country Club Manor), South across Thomas (homes in the Country Club Park neighborhood), East across another parking lot (homes on East Country Club Drive) and West across 7th Street and some commercial uses (homes in La Hacienda Historic District). Although the Applicant's proposal is detrimental to these homes, the real issue is the 2018 rezoning precedent that will be created. We will have cast aside decades of planning, decades of assuring neighbors that they can rely on planning policy, to return to the wild west of zoning entitlements that were handed out in the 1960s, such as the entitlement for Crystal Point that the Applicant relies on. Since the 1960s, Phoenix has designated the city core for H-R development, it has designated the Central Corridor for H-R development, and the MidTown TOD Policy Plan provides for more dense development near the light rail stations.

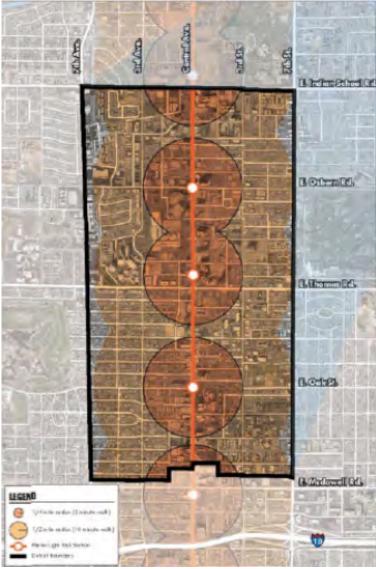
The Phoenix City Code provides that H-R zoning districts only belong in a "few areas" that "generate exceptional amount of activity of a commercial nature".

## 631 High-Rise H-R District—High-Rise and High Density District

The High-Rise H-R is intended to be a special district to allow greater building height and density within those few areas of the City that, by their strategic location and intense land use, generate exceptional amounts of activity of a commercial nature. Within these areas of greatly intensified activity the H-R districts may be combined with the R-4, R-4A, R-5, C-O, C-1, C-2, C-3, A-1, A- 2, P-1 or P-2 districts and shall control in those requirements which it sets forth.

There is no dispute of fact that the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Thomas Road is not one of our city's few areas that generate an exceptional amount of activity of a commercial nature.

The MidTown TOD Policy Plan identifies and demonstrates distances to the light rail stations.



MidTown Policy Plan TOD page 3. The map shows that the North East Corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Thomas is not within a quarter mile radius of a light rail station where the high density is to be

encouraged. The project is not even with the half mile radius. Furthermore, where the MidTown TOD Policy Plan describes Walkable Urban Code zoning, the height and intensity decreases the further from the central corridor, with the most height and intensity specified for along the lightrail line, typically reducing in proximity to single family homes.



MidTown TOD Policy Plan at p. 103.

## MEDIUM INTENSITY DISTRICTS

T5:5 T5:6 T5:7

Characterized by a broad mix of buildings types that integrate retail, offices, and residential units adjacent to the Light Rail Corridor, averaging 56 to 100-feet in height.

Setback standards provide a buffer when adjacent to single-family residential or Historic Preservation districts. Maximum Height: 56-feet (T5:5), 80-ft (T5:6), 100-ft (T5:7)

## HIGH INTENSITY DISTRICTS

T6:7, T6:15 & T6:22

Characterized by high rise buildings adjacent to the Light Rail Corridor with the highest intensity of mixed uses. Development may incorporate forecourts and open spaces available to the public.

**T6:HWR** • A high intensity, height waiver district to ensure equivalent entitlement

Walkable Urban Code, at p. 2. The MidTown TOD Policy Plan does not specify any intensity district east of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

The City of Phoenix General Plan promises to stakeholders a level of certainty and reasonable expectations as to living in our city, and these promises will be broken by approving High Rise (H-R) High Density zoning districts throughout parts of the city where the plans do not permit it.

## **CERTAINTY & CHARACTER**

What makes a city a great place to live are its robust vibrant neighborhoods. There is a level of certainty one expects to have and quality of life one expects to maintain while living in a great city. The goals and policies that are outlined in the General Plan were created so residents have a reasonable expectation and level of certainty while living in our great city; certainty in regards to quality of life and compatibility. The success, stability and certainty our neighborhoods can provide only strengthen our city and region's vitality and prosperity.

At p. 107 (Italics emphasis added).

Every neighborhood and community should have a level of **certainty**.

At p. 107 (Italics emphasis added).

Furthermore, the General Plan assures residents that the goal is to:

Create new development or redevelopment that is sensitive to the scale and character of the surrounding neighborhoods and incorporates adequate development standards to prevent negative impact(s) on the residential properties.

At p. 107 (Italics Emphasis added).

This project is an assault on the certainty that the existing plans and zoning provide to neighbors and as a rezoning opportunity, it is completely out of scale with the surrounding area. Only by looking back toward the high rises in the Central corridor and up to Crystal Point project, which is based on outdated 1960s entitlement planning, can the Applicant show any existing high-rise development within a mile.

Finally, the Applicant absurdly attempts to urge that its suburban designed high rise meets the goals of the MidTown TOD Policy Plan and the Walkable Urban Code. The proposed building does not: the parking structure is not lined with outbuildings, the project does not face 7th Street or Thomas Road, the project does not encourage the use of public transit because it makes the walk to transit as long as possible, the project contains more parking space than mandated by the code, and the project has no interaction with the public right of way at the street level anywhere near the corner of 7th Street and Thomas Road. The proposed site plan actually distances the tower and its future residents from the very corner that the Applicant claims the project will revitalize.

The H-R zoning at the northeast corner of Thomas and 7th Street is inappropriate, whether 175 feet or 250 feet, because the project will be damaging to existing neighborhoods and open the floodgates to similar inappropriate applications outside of the City core, the Central Corridor, and the MidTown TOD Policy Plan. These neighbors

should not have a high rise approved on the northeast corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Thomas Road. We ask you to reject rezoning application case number **Z-41-18**.

Sincerely,

Opal Wagner Vice President

From:
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2018 5:03 PM
To: Hannah Bleam
Subject: Z-41-18

Encanto Village c/o Hannah Bleam

I have several concerns about the project proposed at 7th Street & Thomas Road as currently designed:

- A 15' + blank wall along Thomas & 7th St instead of providing quality mixed-use development encouraged by the zoning examples they are
- neighborhoods. A project that is too high for our neighborhood – heights that are appropriate for Central Avenue and not transition zones to our existing
- over the life of the project. Reliance on landscaping as an "urban element" - a short drive around the Country Club will show you the complete disregard for maintaining the existing landscape along both 7th St. & Thomas. There is no reason to believe the proposed landscape will be maintained

building that will be out of scale with the citizen backed vision for this neighborhood Cherry-picking the requirements of the adjacent the Midtown TOD & WU Codes to justify additional height is an unreasonable argument for a

Please help us protect our neighborhood, my family did not move here four years ago to live in a bedroom community. Help us encourage quality mixed-use projects that don't tower over our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time helping us make our community a better place



From: Linda Richmann
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 1:07 PM

To: Hannah Bleam

Subject: Case Number Z-41-18

To: Encanto Village Planning Committee

I am opposed to the fifteen story condominium tower that is planned for the northeast corner of 7th Street and Thomas

colossal traffic debacle that would create. With increased cars, the proposed project creates more air pollution and traffic noise (pollution). That doesn't even take into account the visual and light pollution from that corner that myself and neighbors are suddenly forced to view. I do not oppose were to project the amount of cars for a 125 housing unit, at two cars per unit, any person who is familiar with that intersection, would realize what a order to create an elite enclave for 125 units in a gated community. It would create more traffic problems on 7th Street, a reverse traffic lane. If one the Central Avenue corridor. the building of high-rise structures, but they should be built in the correct location—they should adhere to existing zoning codes restricting towers to location is inappropriate for the surrounding established historic neighborhoods. It will reduce the quality of life for a large number of residents in I live off Virginia and Richland Street, half a mile from the proposed site. I have lived there for over thirty years. A tower that size and in that

- no to 15 story high-rise outside of Central Avenue corridor in Midtown Phoenix
- will reduce quality of life for surrounding neighborhoods
- increase air pollution
- increase traffic and traffic noise

Sincerely, Linda Richmann

COMMITTEE. THANK YOU PLEASE DELIVER THIS LETTER IMMEDIATELY TO EACH AND EVERY MEMBER OF THE ENCANTO VILLAGE PLANNING

Sent from my iPad

From:

James Shea

Sent:

Wednesday, August 22, 2018 4:58 PM

To:

Hannah Bleam

Subject:

Z-41-18

I am very dismayed of the proposal to build yet another apartment complex in an already overcrowded array of complexes in the Central Phx area. I live just east morning and afternoon rush hours. For example going west on Thomas in the afternoon the traffic is backed up from 7th St.to the red light on 12 St.. Also so of the high school and travel thru the 7th St.and E.Thomas intersection 3-4 times each day especially on Mon-Fri. The traffic is now unbearable during the much traffic cuts through the residential streets to avoid the heavy clogged traffic.I do this myself.

residential taxpayers and voters in the surrounding area and drivers of autos. Just imagine hundreds of more people with autos on top of the present ones causing a gridlock during rush times. There is no CONCERN for quality of life for the

construction of a 15 story building, for profits of people who have no concern for others, is an invasion of respectable home owners who have been responsible In addition the residents of the immediate area have lived in their homes for decades and decades and deserve the respect of a peaceful privacy. The for their community.

From:
Sent: Tuesday, September 04, 2018 5:33 AM
To: Hannah Bleam
Subject: Case Z-41-18

Dear Hannah,

Thank you for reading this email.

built unless they were close to the light rail. buildings that are higher than those that are here. Those buildings are near the light rail. The city promised us that buildings like these would not be I am writing about the high rise that is proposed at 7th St. and Thomas Rd. It doesn't fit the neighborhood. It is too high. It belongs with other

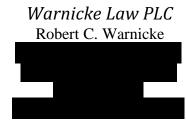
uncomfortable, heat island that would serve no one. It would even make the people living in such a building think twice about going for a walk. One of the goals for Phoenix is to have a walkable city. This project would not be in line with that goal. The wall around it would create an

neighborhood (and for other neighborhoods around Phoenix like ours) to preserve what we love about our way of life and what brings value to our Please think about what would be best for Phoenix. This project, if approved, would create many consequences that would make it difficult for our

Let's stick to the city's plan for a greater Phoenix and abandon this self serving project.

Thank you, Jean Switzer





August 29, 2018

<u>Via Email</u> Encanto Village Planning Committee C/O Hannah.Bleam@phoenix.gov

## Re: Opposition to Z-41-18: H-R, Northeast Corner of 7th Street and Thomas Road

Dear Encanto Village Planning Committee member,

We ask you to reject the Application in zoning case number Z-41-18 for the Northeast Corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Thomas Road.

I write to you on behalf of my family and as president of the La Hacienda Historic District. Our homes are on the first two blocks north of Thomas between 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Many of our homes are among the closest to the subject property's location, just beyond commercial lots on the west side of 7<sup>th</sup> Street. My home is at

## 1. Inappropriate Height for the Surrounding Area

The High Rise High Density Zoning District requested just to the East of our Historic neighborhood is inappropriate according to the General Plan of the City of Phoenix 2015 and the MidTown TOD Policy Plan, which both focus high rise and high density much closer to Central Avenue where public funds have established the light rail infrastructure. To grant the application would be a breach of the certainty and reasonable expectations that we have for living and investing in our homes in this city. With every plan, whether the General Plan or the MidTown TOD Policy Plan, the City has assured us that the high rise and high-density zoning in our area will be focused on the Central Corridor, and not randomly scattered through neighborhoods like was done decades past.

The 250-foot zoning district height requested (perhaps a maximum of 175 feet by stipulation) pursuant to the proposed H-R application a half mile away from Central Avenue is nothing more than the resurrection of poor urban planning designs that were abandoned in the 1960s. The Application repeatedly points to Crystal Point and its entitlement history that was from **1963**, and even quotes from those planning documents that are some 55 years old. The vision of the city of Phoenix from the 1960s has been

reimagined and updated, and few zoning entitlements from that era far from Central Avenue have ever been utilized to their full extent.

The map of existing buildings does not support imposing the proposed High Rise High Density Zoning District to the east of La Hacienda Historic District, and even to the east of 7<sup>th</sup> Street, on Thomas Road.



Looking southeast, there is nothing remotely this monstrously tall *anywhere* nearby. This Google Earth rendering shows that it will stick out like a sore thumb dominating the skyline in our neighborhoods.

An overhead view further shows how urban planning design *steps down* from the High Rise High Density Zoning District along Central Avenue travelling east along Thomas Road. The following examples were taken from reference in Application, their position and height are in red boxes.

Crystal Point 1040 E. Osborn
Financial Center 3343 N. Central
One Lexington 3225 N. Central
CBIZ Plaza 3101 N. Central
COpper Point 3030 N. 31<sup>rd</sup> Street
Phoenix Corporate Tower 3003 N. Central
Phoenix Plaza 11929 N. Central
Phoenix Plaza 1901 N. Central
Century Link 20 E. Thomas
2800 North Central 2800 N. Central
2600 Tower 2600 N. Central
Regency on Central



The High Rise High Density Zoning District requested in the Application (white 175 on the black box) is an outlier, just like the poor urban design of Crystal Point near the northeast corner. The blue boxes are the Cigna and First Place buildings, both believed to be under 60 feet, and they are largely a result of a High Rise High Density Zoning District entitlement from decades ago, and *replacing* an approximately 130-foot building. We supported variances for the four story First Place project; we are not opposed to additional residential density of an appropriate scale. We have also supported two other 5 story multifamily projects nearby on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (Alta Thomas and Crescent Midtown) having arrived at compromises with those applicants that protected neighborhood values.

Everything currently existing in the transparency area on the east side of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, *except Crystal Point*, is believed to be under 48 feet, and continues off the page for almost two miles north until the new Alta Camelback at perhaps 70 feet, east to almost the Piestewa Parkway where Phoenix Children's Hospital has a high-rise tower, southeast all the way to the hospital tower on McDowell for Banner Samaritan, and then south all the way to the City Core.

Looking at the project from a northly direction shows the building just plopped down among neighborhoods and sticking out like a red sore thumb (so I colored it red).



The map demonstrates that the requested height is not appropriate for the existing conditions.

## 2. Current City Planning Does Not Support the Requested Height

Notably, the Application references several buildings that are approximately 175 feet that are all *also* along Central Avenue among the 200+ foot towers, and it is along Central Avenue that the High Rise High Density Zoning Districts belongs in this area. The reason for this is driven by the City Code which provides:

## 631 High-Rise H-R District—High-Rise and High Density District.

The High-Rise H-R is intended to be a special district to allow greater building height and density within those few areas of the City that, by their strategic location and intense land use, generate exceptional amounts of activity of a commercial nature. Within these areas of greatly intensified activity the H-R districts may be combined with the R-4, R-4A, R-5, C-O, C-1, C-2, C-3, A-1, A-2, P-1 or P-2 districts and shall control in those requirements which it sets forth.

The Application cannot demonstrate that this is one of the "few areas" that has an exceptional amount of commercial activity that it should be allowed High Rise and High

Density Zoning District combined with R-5. The subject property is *outside* the Encanto core which ends at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.



Excerpt from: <a href="https://www.phoenix.gov/pddsite/Documents/PlanPHX\_Village\_Cores.pdf">https://www.phoenix.gov/pddsite/Documents/PlanPHX\_Village\_Cores.pdf</a>

The concept of focused redevelopment is described in the General Plan:

Locate land uses with the greatest height and most intense uses within village cores, centers and corridors based on village character, land use needs, and transportation system capacity.

\*\*\*\*

Promote development in compact cores, centers and corridors that are connected by roads and transit, and are designed to encourage walking and bicycling.

General Plan, at page 62. There is no mistaking that the subject property is outside of the Village Core.

The City promises Stakeholders in the General Plan:

## **CERTAINTY & CHARACTER**

What makes a city a great place to live are its robust vibrant neighborhoods. There is a level of certainty one expects to have and quality of life one expects to maintain while living in a great city. The goals and policies that are outlined in the General Plan were created so residents have a reasonable expectation and level of certainty while living in our great city; certainty in regards to quality of life and compatibility. The success, stability and certainty our neighborhoods can provide only strengthen our city and region's vitality and prosperity.

At page 107 (Italics emphasis added). The General Plan assures residents that the goal is to:

Create new development or redevelopment that is sensitive to the scale and character of the surrounding neighborhoods and incorporates adequate development standards to prevent negative impact(s) on the residential properties.

At page 107 (Emphasis added).

The Application also involves property that is also outside of the MidTown TOD Policy Plan, which ends on the west side of 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The MidTown TOD Policy Plan promotes the most density and height close to the light rail stations. The subject property

is not "close" to the light rail station at Central Avenue and Catalina Drive, it is over a half mile away. The following graphic has the ¼ and ½ mile circles map from page 3 overlaid with the transit districts from map from page 103, and the descriptions from the Walkable Urban Code. The higher density is to be focused around the ¼ mile, with less density further away in the ½ mile circle. (The higher density districts are colored darker)



## HIGH INTENSITY DISTRICTS

T6:7, T6:15 & T6:22

Characterized by high rise buildings adjacent to the Light Rail Corridor with the highest intensity of mixed uses. Development may incorporate forecourts and open spaces available to the public.

T6:HWR - A high intensity, height waiver district to ensure equivalent entitlement

## MEDIUM INTENSITY DISTRICTS

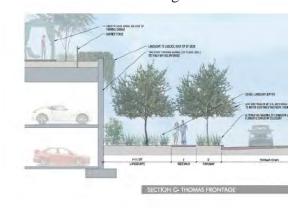
T5:5 T5:6 T5:7

Characterized by a broad mix of buildings types that integrate retail, offices, and residential units adjacent to the Light Rail Corridor, averaging 56 to 100-feet in height.

Setback standards provide a buffer when adjacent to single-family residential or Historic Preservation districts. Maximum Height: 56-feet (T5:5), 80-ft (T5:6), 100-ft (T5:7)

The high intensity districts are to be "adjacent" to the light rail corridor. Medium density is next, with a maximum height of 100 or of even less, 56 feet when adjacent to single-family residential. Of course, the Applicant's project is outside to the east of the Midtown TOD Policy Plan altogether. The Midtown TOD Policy Plan does not support this density outside the district, and inside the district it would support at most medium intensity, not high intensity, so far away from the light rail.

Perhaps recognizing the failure of the property to be in the Village Core or even in the MidTown TOD Policy Plan, the Application briefly describes a "Thomas Corridor", however, the proffered property design itself concedes that this project is not part of any grand "Thomas Corridor" in this Village. The Application offers Thomas Road nothing more than a fifteen-foot high concrete wall:



These concrete walls are a strange way to continue a supposed "Thomas Corridor". Furthermore, there is no large commercial building complex on Thomas Road within a quarter mile of the project. Central Avenue is a long way to the west and immediately to the east are residential neighborhoods and North High School. The proposed tower is even set back away from both Thomas Road and the corner on a parking podium:



As shown below, the Applicant also intends its project to interact exclusively with the Phoenix Country Club's clubhouse to the northeast, not some newly envisioned Thomas Corridor.



The only way to accurately describe this requested High Rise High Density Zoning District is to say that it runs counter to the "compact core" principle in the General Plan and that it is requested in a place that is not one of the "few areas" where there is an "exceptional amount of commercial activity". The Application contains numerous photos that demonstrate that Thomas Road and 7<sup>th</sup> Street is not one of the "few areas" creating an "exceptional amount of commercial activity" as required to impose a High Rise (H-R) High Density Zoning District. The Applicant even goes to great pains to argue that the nearby area is "underutilized" and needs the "revitalization", which is contrary to when a High Rise High Density Zoning District may be entitled. Ironically, the Application urges that this H-R rezoning would somehow provide benefits to the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Thomas by interacting with the corner in the most limited way possible, fifteen-foot high concrete walls enclosing parked cars.

The Application pays lip service to the Walkable Urban Code, describing several sidewalk, landscape and shade offerings, but it is clear this is not a walkable project. The

concrete walls and orientation of the proposed building, away from the corner, are not consistent with a walkable building. In addition, *more* parking spaces that the code requires are being built. *This Application is, perhaps, the worst walkable building claim ever made*. Higher density and height is supposed to be focused within a ½ mile from the light rail stations, a five-minute walk. This project is at least a ½ mile, meaning a tenminute walk, however, the reality is that the walk from the northeast side of the building that faces the entrance of the Phoenix Country Club clubhouse, and the barrier of 7th Street, means a much longer potential walk to the light rail. The higher density, height and intensity are supposed to leverage the nearby billion-dollar public investment made in mass transit. It is shocking to see the Applicant claim this project is consistent with any current urban planning goal. The Applicant might as well describe Crystal Point the epitome of the new urban style walkable building.

## 3. Don't Support the Application to Save the Golf Course

The Application describes the great value that the jealously guarded green space that the Phoenix Country Club's golf course provides to the City, and gently suggest that approval of project is necessary to save the golf course. The Applicants suggestion is consistent with rumors over the years that the Phoenix Country Club has an extremely high debt load. The Applicant soft pedals this issue in its explanation of how the protection and continued existence of a private and exclusive 105 acre golf course in the midtown area of Phoenix contributes to a "sustainable" city (it is heat sink/air refresher):

It has been widely reported in the last decade that golf courses throughout the Valley are struggling to survive, threatening existing open space amenities which are important contributions to residential neighborhoods.

## Application at page 22.

Maintaining PCC's vitality, and thereby the golf course, will preserve the golf course's cleansing effects on the environment well into the future.

## Application at page 22.

PCC has been proactively attempting to reposition the strength and health of its golf course and club amenities.

## Application at page 22.

The quality condominium development is the latest measure PCC is promoting as a significant means of preserving and enhancing the golf course and club amenities which form this one-of-a kind urban oasis in the City.

At 23. So, the soft pedal pitch is that the City should approve the entitlement to save the golf course.

This argument should be rejected, as it requests a permanent entitlement, High Rise High Density Zoning District where it does not belong, in exchange for a temporary

benefit, the possible continued existence of the golf course. In addition, the very idea that the Club should get a handout from the City to maintain private green space that directly benefits its well-off members because it has the most indirect of benefits for the plebes is ridiculous. Furthermore, the Club maintains the entire golf course as a county island and, at a minimum, does not pay the same 2.17% property tax to the City that the rest of us pay for our property in the City. And yet the Club comes forward demanding another give and offers nothing.

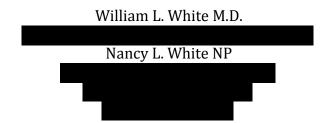
The permanent grant of an entitlement by the Application to save the green space does nothing to ensure that the Club will make a permanent commitment to preserve green space: reading between the lines of the Application, the golf course may well be on its last days, and in return for a permanent entitlement the City gets nothing to ensure the Club will (or can) maintain the green space the Applicant asserts is so good for the City. If the Applicant hopes to prevail on this argument, the Club should commit to bring the golf course into the city *and* provide a deed restriction on any redevelopment in exchange for reasonable entitlements on the corner. Of course, it will not, as the Club is too greedy to give up the tax break and future property value: temporary promises are being made for permanent entitlements. The City is being grifted, and they hope you won't notice.

## Conclusion

The General Plan and the MidTown TOD Policy Plan do not support granting the Application, the height and density are not to be promoted outside of Central Corridor with the light rail, the City Core, or the Village Cores. The existing map of building heights show that a height of 175 feet (or 250 feet) do not belong on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Thomas Road. Additionally, Thomas Road is not a corridor for high rise redevelopment, and the proposal shows the Applicant intends to turn the project's back on Thomas and the corner. All of the flowery words and nice descriptions in the Application cannot change the fact that the Application relies on planning decisions from the 1960s that did not work, were bad for neighborhoods, and have been abandoned. High Rise High Density Zoning Districts are permitted by the Phoenix Zoning Code only in the "few areas" in the City with "exceptional commercial activity": this does not describe 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Thomas Road. The General Plan assures stakeholders that they can have certainty as to their living conditions, and the current Application is an assault on the certainty.

Please vote to reject Z-41-18.

Sincerely
<a href="#">Robert C. Warnicke</a>
<a href="#">Robert C. Warnicke</a>



August 26, 2018

Hannah Bleam: Encanto Village Planner

Re: 15 Story High Rise at 7th St. and Thomas Rd.

Dear Hannah and the Encanto Village Planning Committee:

We would like to briefly discuss the primary reasons we are concerned about the proposed 15-story High Rise in the Phoenix Country Club parking lot at the corner of  $7^{th}$  St. and Thomas Rd.

- 1. It just doesn't belong there. Phoenix Country Club owes a large debt from upgrades made many years ago. Some members of the Country Club have proposed this condo project as a means of improving the Country Club's finances. We are told that the club will be paid 5 million dollars, of which 2 million will be applied to the debt. We are not informed as to the developer's expected potential profit and are also not aware of any bidding process in determining the price of the land. We are concerned that the developer(s) may be club members and their opinions may be biased by potential personal gain.
- 2. The high rise changes the atmosphere from a single-family, quiet community with charisma and charm to a Yuppie beehive. We are the first home on North Country Club Drive. We are not thrilled with the thought of such an albatross looking down on our back yard.
- 3. We have lived here for 40 years and it is unfair to have the codes changed for profit motivated by developers.
- 4. We understand the codes already allow high-rise buildings along the Central Corridor between 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and 3<sup>rd</sup> St. An editorial in the newspaper today reports a downturn in the housing market. We are also aware that there are many new condos/apartments that are not being sold /occupied downtown.

- If over building continues and this high rise fails, what happens to our neighborhood then?
- 5. The high rise, if successful, will undoubtedly increase the traffic at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> St. and Thomas Rd. We have been told that statistical studies have shown the increase in traffic will not significantly impact our neighborhood. Statistical studies are strongly affected by the bias of the investigator (design of the study) as well as the bias of those interpreting the studies. Intuition and common sense, would tell us otherwise. If there is an increase in number of residents, it will increase the number of automobiles (2 per condo). We only have one entrance to Thomas Road and one entrance to 7<sup>th</sup> St. to provide ingress and egress. It is difficult enough now trying to get out during high traffic hours and will become a more dangerous nightmare.
- 6. An increase in population results in an increase in crime.
- 7. This project can only result in a tremendous decline in the atmosphere and decrease in quality of life for our historic neighborhood and the Phoenix Country Club.

We are strongly opposed to a change in building codes that would allow this monstrosity to be built. It would be unfair to have this forced upon our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

William L. White M.D. Nancy L. White NP

From: SUZANNE WISE

Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2018 4:48 PM

To: Hannah Bleam

Cc:

**Subject:** Z-41-18

Ms. Hannah Bleam

**Encanto Village Planning Committee** 

hannah.bleam@phoenix.gov

Dear Ms. Bleam:

outlined by the palm trees in the Phoenix Country Club Drive and parking lot area (where a high rise is proposed to be built). table. Throughout the day, the neighborhood streets are a happy buzz of folks exercising and walking dogs. When the sun sets, it is beautifully Every morning I have the pleasure of watching airplanes, on their final approach into Sky Harbor Airport, from the window at my kitchen

many years to come for the beauty and the quality of life it offers This is our community and we love it. It is also an historic neighborhood, an asset to the city, that should be appreciated, protected, and preserved for

of fancy that imagines ANY benefit to it's neighbors by allowing this project to go forward unnecessary and unwanted LIGHTS, NOISE, and TRAFFIC. I can't express enough the negative impact that would occur or deny enough the flight A rezone that would allow a high rise out of the central corridor, and a behemoth of a structure, would greatly, negatively impact our community with

more beautiful and functional city, through a well thought out, cohesive plan. Keeping high rises in one, already designated area, allows the city to better plan for the public transportation, no car zones, etc., that would make a

community needs your help! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to mail or call. I am opposed to rezoning, the case number is Z-41-18, at 7th Street and Thomas in Phoenix. Thank you for taking this under consideration. Our

PLEASE SEND THIS LETTER IMMEDIATELY TO EACH MEMBER OF THE ENCANTO VILLAGE PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Wise



Via Email
Encanto Village Planning Committee
% Hannah Bleam hannah.bleam@phoenix.gov

Re: Opposition to Case No. Z-41-18

Dear Encanto Village Planning Committee Member,

As long time residents in Country Club Park Historic Nelghborhood, my husband Joe and I are <u>totally opposed</u> to the rezoning of 2+ acres located at the NEC of 7th St and Thomas Rd and part of the Phoenix Country Club parking lot. The applicant is requesting to change the zoning from P-1 to R-5 H-R (Multi-family Residential, High Rise/High Density). Below we have outlined some of our reasons why the rezoning request (Case No. Z-41-18) should be denied.

- 1) The proposed **15** Story Condominium Tower of **175 foot height** (up to a possible 250 foot height with H-R) is ridiculously **excessive** for the area of 7th St and Thomas Rd. The present building height along 7th Street is **48** feet, approximately 4 stories in height. A 4 story building **towers** over any nearby single story residence, not to mention what it would be like to have a **15** Story **Monster** towering over nearby single story homes. The residents within the Country Club, residents west of 7th St, and residents south of Thomas are all negatively impacted by **King Kong** towering over their properties. This is **egregious** and **unacceptable.**
- 2) This High Rise/High Density project falls <u>outside</u> the city's Central High Rise Corridor, and <u>outside</u> the Light Rail Corridor and Transit Overlay District. It belongs between 3rd St and 3rd Avenue and closer to Central Avenue and the Light Rail, not 4 blocks away. It does **not** belong on the east side 7th St and does **not** belong outside of Phoenix's **planned** Central Corridor. Stick to the plan!
- 3) Approval will set a <u>bad precedent</u> for further High Rise development along 7th St, as well as East of 7th St. Keep High Rises between 3rd St and 3rd Ave, and within the Central High Rise Corridor, and where they are within **reasonable** walking distance to the Light Rail. No one East of 7th Street walks to Central Avenue to take the Light Rail. And anyone living East of 3rd St is hard pressed to walk to Central to use the Light Rail. Seven to eight months out of the year Phoenix is <u>not</u> a walkable city. No amount of dreaming or scheming is going to make it so. Residents of high end condos are not going to walk more than a block away for anything and this location offers no amenities worth walking to.
- 4) The project design with its 2 story concrete walls along 7th St and along Thomas Rd surrounding the parking garage in **no way** fits nor promotes the **city's walkable urban plan**. These concrete walls will be **unwelcoming** and are not a destination on the corner for pedestrians. The proposed 15 foot concrete walls will be less

beneficial for the corner than the existing metal fence and vines. The concrete walls will likely be a new venue for graffiti artists. The imposing walls are likely to reflect sound, light, and heat back at pedestrians. The only significant open space anywhere near the corner is an elevated amenities deck that is for residents only, and yet we are to approve the project because of the 105 acre golf course green space. The corner gets the concrete and not the green space which remains private and hidden. Our city deserves better on this corner than a 15 story tower built over a parking podium with 2 stories of **unforgiving** concrete walls.

- 5) The increase in density on that corner will have a negative impact on the already heavy traffic in the area of Thomas Rd and 7th St. You do not need a traffic study of the area to know the impact of an additional 200 plus vehicles in and out of the Club's 2 entrances on to two of the city's busiest streets. Just drive through that intersection any time Monday through Friday, and especially after 2PM. Let's not forget the negative impact on the residents within the Country Club having to share their ingress and egress with an additional 200 plus vehicles. What about 3rd St traffic that will be forced to take another route soon with the 3rd Street Promenade project? That traffic will flow over to an already congested 7th St. The applicant admits that there will be another 704 vehicle trips, with 99 of those during peak hours. This is putting at least 99 more cars into the mix every day at uncontrolled intersections on to the north and east of this hugely congested corner, and factor in the added difficulty of the reverse lane on 7th St. It will not be safe, and it will be putting us all at more risk, especially pedestrians waiting for buses that could end up sharing the sidewalk with spinning cars.
- 6) Another **traffic issue:** Country Club Park Historic Neighborhood is already plagued with **cut through traffic** on our surface streets, thanks to the reverse lane on 7th St, the traffic heading west on Thomas Rd and backing up to 11th St and beyond, and student drop off traffic related to North High. More traffic in the area means more cut through traffic within Country Club Park, i.e. Windsor Ave, 8th St, 10th St, and Dayton. There are **no** sidewalks within 2/3's of this neighborhood, and the streets are shared by both pedestrians and vehicles. Any increase in traffic escalates an already **unsafe** situation for residents and pedestrians.
- 7) Phoenix should **reject** this 15 Story High Rise project and the rezoning request as it is merely a bandaid on the Country Club's financial problems. It is a temporary fix at the **expense** and to the **detriment** of the surrounding *historic* residential neighborhoods; Country Club Park (and Coronado) to the south, La Hacienda to the west, and Country Club Place within the Country Club to the north and to the east. Selfishly, the Country Club is the only one to benefit from this High Rise. The project provides absolutely **no** benefit to the neighborhoods surrounding 7th St and Thomas Rd. It is a complete **NO WIN** situation for everyone but the Club.

We are not opposed to the area around 7th St and Thomas Rd being developed. We welcome it. However, this High Rise project is **all wrong** for that location. Let's not ruin these three historic neighborhoods.

Respectfully,

Jeanne Yawger (Resident since 1995, Property Owner since 2005)

Joseph Every (Property Owner since 2005)

P.S. Our property backs to Thomas Rd and this **Albatross** will be hovering over our backyard. Imagine this happening to you and your neighbors. Say goodbye to your privacy, quiet enjoyment, property values, existing views, etc.

It is egregious and totally unacceptable.