

HOME BEAUTIFUL PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

March 10, 2021

Regarding Request for Community Input on Northeast 6th Development LLC

Dear CRA Team:

Thank you for providing the complete documents regarding application from NE 6th Development LLC (Victor Harvey) regarding the proposed Victory Entertainment and Distillery project reviewed by CRA commissioners at their Jan. 12 virtual meeting. On February 4th, the day after our regular monthly meeting, Ms. Turner-Diggs of the CRA invited Home Beautiful Park Civic Association to provide a letter of support for the project, along with a pdf describing the project and two page agenda of the Jan. 12th meeting. Since neither of these two documents included any pertinent information such as the precise location, detailed description of the permanent jobs to be created or business profile characteristics of the proposed development, I requested to see the full application and received a link to the full 400+ page packet on Feb. 24, just in time for our March 3rd monthly meeting.

After reviewing the full application and consulting with residents of the Home Beautiful Park Civic Association, we cannot provide the requested letter of support for this project proposed for our neighborhood since all comments received were against the project as currently proposed. We all want development for our neighborhood, however we need the type of development that brings social, economic and physical wellbeing to our community, not one that will usurp what little wellness assets we have. A vodka distillery, with wine, whiskey and cigar bar is not a priority mixed use development for our residents, nor is it consistent with the needs and fabric of our 40% senior, 30% disabled, 30% single parent family, median \$20.5K per household community. While residents were eager to see business development projects arise, they want to see projects that benefit and complement the community, not ones that are poised to further compromise our safety, wellness and amenities.

Please ensure that the following resident comments are included in the consideration of this project:

1. Drinks are okay, but we don't need a distillery and cigar bar, we need a movie theater to go to with the grandchildren and a place to go to socialize and listen to singers. We need a place where we can go to talk to each other. RM
2. Build something that will develop jobs for us and help our community not tear it down. I would prefer somewhere where people can go to for help not bring us down. We need things in the community to build us up and things that will help us. We have enough drug addicts and alcoholics, put in a school or an AA or something to help us to get ourselves back on track, educate us. I know we got something like that by the library and next to it (Urban League) is a place where people can go to stimulate our lives. We need more places like that and the library to build us up not tear us down. We are down enough as it is. We don't need distilled whatever it is. That seems to be the norm. They want to keep our heads clouded with drugs and alcohol. If they really cared about us they would do the opposite. SM
3. How much money is going to the community? Why would we need a distillery here? Do we not have enough shops that sell alcohol? It's going to take money away from the local shops that already sell spirits. We will have excess traffic from those seeking to procure booze. It's a predatory business taking away from the community and not giving anything back which becomes a cost to the community instead of a benefit. If you want to have a distillery then make a micro-brewery and teach local people how to brew and sell their own local beer and wine. FV
4. This proposal really does not take into account the health of our community. We are already suffering from so many health issues. We are already suffering a lower quality of life, a lower standard of living and a lower life expectancy than the rest of the city and county. This is not going to be good for us. The city takes our ideas and implements them in other areas. Overall, the system prevents us from living. AH

Respectfully,

Tara Chadwick, President
Home Beautiful Park Civic Association

cc.

Clarence Woods III – CRA Manager
Bob Wojcik – Housing and Economic Development Manager
Thomasina Turner-Diggs – CRA Planner