

Alex311 User:

The following request for service has just been assigned to you:

Request Number: **21-00026134**
Request Type: **Planning and Zoning General Comments, Complaints, and Inquiries**
Location:
Request Submitted: **10/15/2021**
Estimated Resolution Date: **10/22/2021**

Customer Comments:

City Council,

As a resident and owner of a historic property in the block of 700 N Columbus, I am writing with concern about the Columbus Flats project at 805-823 N. Columbus Street.

The city should not approve the project in the 800 N Block of Columbus.

As the owner of a historic home, I am tired of being held to a strict code and set of rules for maintaining my home with historic and expensive materials while another 5 story building is constructed in the neighborhood. I cannot afford to maintain my home to the historical standards if it is shaken to its core everyday by more traffic, more construction, and more pollution.

Growth in North Old Town has been exponential in recent years and continues at an unprecedented pace, with no real consideration for the consequences or the impact on existing residents. I get it, we approved the last project, and this is similar so why would we not? Well maybe, just maybe, we should do some assessment on all the prior and in process projects before we approve the next one.

Traffic is abysmal on the Washington Street corridor. To the point that it often overflows on to North Columbus, creating bumper to bumper gridlock during rush hour. How do we think this project is going to affect residents experience? Did the city even study those impacts? Should they before approval?

Yes, the project is going to provide parking for some residents, but what about the rest, parking in the

neighborhood is already difficult. If the building is not going to meet the cities standards for parking requirements, then I propose that residents of the building not be allowed to obtain residential parking permits for the surrounding zoned parking areas or that the area be rezoned to insulate the existing residents from those seeking parking permits form the new project.

Additionally, this project is counting above-grade terraces and balconies as part of the required open space. I mean when are we going to stop kidding ourselves?

Every year my real and personal property taxes are increasing (either by unfair assessments or actual increases) and yet my quality of life as a resident is decreasing.

I hope that my concerns will not fall on deaf ears and that the council will look at the bigger picture and true fabric of the existing neighborhood before approving this project. But if not, I look forward to referencing this project when I come before the council and ask to turn my 2 story historic townhome built in the 1890s, located ½ a block from this project, into a 5 story parking garage to serve the new residents.

Sincerely,
Eric Bodley
Resident and Taxpayer
700 Block of N Columbus St.

Staff Comments:

Please view the complete case history and details in the Alex311 console and take the appropriate actions to complete this request by the estimated resolution date. **Use the Alex311 Console to contact the customer. Do not forward this email to the customer, or to any City staff who are Alex311 users.**

Alex311
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