

This is to acknowledge receipt of your e-mail. Thank you for your feedback.

Angela G. Whitaker
Aide to City Commissioner Andrew D. Gillum
Mayor Pro Tem / City Commission, Seat 2
City of Tallahassee
300 S. Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
Ph. #850-891-8503
Fax. #850-891-8542
Angela.Whitaker@talgov.com

Register to receive ADG E-News - News and Information from City Commissioner Andrew D. Gillum @ <http://www.talgov.com/commission/commissioners/gillum.cfm#newsletters>

-----Original Message-----

From: jimbarb123@comcast.net [mailto:jimbarb123@comcast.net]

Sent: Saturday, February 14, 2009 9:07 PM

To: City Commission Office; Commisioner Gillum; Commisioner Katz; Commisioner Lightsey; Commisioner Mustian; Mayor John Marks

Subject: Lafayette Park Historic Preservation & Planning Deperment Survey

Dear Mayor Marks, City Commissioners Katz, Gillium, Lightsey & Mustian~~

I am Jim Pfof, an applicant for the Lafayette Park Historic Preservation Overlay, an owner of 510 Beard Street and President of the Lafayette Park Neighborhood Association.

You have undoubtedly received email messages from owners who oppose the Lafayette Park HPO and the rejected survey sent out to our neighborhood by the Planning Department. **The City Attorney's Office and the Planning Commission attorney have already advised Wayne Tedder that the survey vote is tainted and should not be considered by the Planning Commissioners.**

I would like for you to consider the following and reject the opponents demands to consider the survey totals as being valid:

~~The neighborhood already took a vote on the HPO proposal and out of 475 ballots sent 339 were returned with 72% in favor and only 28% opposed.

~The Planning Department put together the survey form with no parcel numbers or the owners names on each form as a control measure. There was no control over who was voting or if the form was reproduced for invalid

votes. There are major questions as to whether the figures gathered by the Planning Department are accurate.

~The Planning Department sent out the mailing by certified mail with no advanced notice so no one knew it was coming or how important it was to respond. Many owners did not sign for nor send the survey back because they thought it was a duplication of the neighborhood vote and thought it was a total waste of City money for the survey to be sent in the first place.

~ If the owner was not home at the time the postman came to deliver the certified mail, the owner had to drive 9 miles from our neighborhood to the Jackson Lake post office to sign for the mail. Many people avoid certified mail because it generally means "bad news." Almost 200 of the surveys remain at the post office and have not been signed for by the addressee. There were 25 surveys sent out with the wrong address which were returned as undeliverable by the post office.

~At the time the survey was being sent out, the opposition created three mailers sent to all Lafayette Park owners which contained total misinformation about the Historic Preservation Overlay and the function of the Architectural Review Board and what "Work Regulated" items are looked over by the ARB. Many owners became confused with this misinformation.

~~There was a bogus survey form sent out by the opposition side asking the owners change their vote which tainted to survey results.

~~The Planning Department numbers as to the the parcels involved are incorrect. There are 491 parcels with separate addresses in the proposed Lafayette Park HPO. Wayne Tedder sent out 444 surveys. The numbers show that there are 475 parcels in the original application and 16 more parcels added in the Marion Street application for a total of 491 parcels. Mr. Tedder's numbers do not add up because 242 surveys were returned but 354 votes cast which makes 1.42 parcels per owner owned by the 242 respondents. These figures are not accurate.

The HPO will be coming to the City Commissioners for consideration. The Planning Department survey and vote totals are corrupted and tainted and should not be considered in any form or manner.

What the majority of owners truly want, is to preserve the integrity of the Lafayette Park neighborhood because once the homes are changed dramatically or demolished, they are gone forever. Our neighborhood has 361 historically contributing homes that are from 50 to almost 100years old. This neighborhood is constantly under pressure to change because it is a desirable place to live close to downtown Tallahassee. And, this is the reason our neighborhood needs to be preserved as part of historic Tallahassee. If it is lost it can never be recreated.

No one likes being told what we can do with our property, but if we are going to preserve historic Tallahassee, we all have to be willing to make some compromises. Having the Architectural Review Board review process is a very minor compared with what it will accomplish in saving our historic Tallahassee neighborhood from disappearing over time. The ARB is not there to stop us from renovating our homes but is there to help make renovation changes that are consistent and save the historic integrity of our homes.

Future generations of Tallahassee residents and future Lafayette Park neighborhood owners will applaud your foresight in preserving Tallahassee in general as well as our neighborhood, its historic homes and it unique charm.

Thank you,

Jim Pfof
Lafayette Park

▪

[FREE Animations for your email - by IncrediMail! Click Here!](#)