



Sunday, September 13, 2020

To the CPC and Elected Representatives
Re: Proposed Expansion of the Historic King Drive BID

Dear Committee:

I can say profoundly, without contradiction from many of our 5 Points neighborhood residents, that the Historic King Drive BID #8's expansion is not welcomed. This BID is yet another example of ignoring community engagement. The lack of proper representation for, and input from, our residents and business owners continues to be "the way of doing business" for the petitioners for BID #8 expansion. There was no preliminary communication provided to Five Points residents. The residents were more than caught off guard when the BID #8 notice was received from the city. The notice listed the amounts to be tacked onto our taxes. The "sudden" notice also announced the city-sponsored public hearing concerning the expansion of BID #8 into the Five Points area. Why was there no preliminary communication and inclusion from 5 Points residents? Residents who would be the most affected by an expansion should, obviously, be notified in a manner that effectively prepares them.

I speak, for myself, and many 5 Points residents when I say that the "Historic King Drive BID #8" expansion is not wanted or welcomed.

Sincerely,
Churchill Caruthers Jr.

Five Points Neighborhood Association - Board Member/NIBD Chair



September 14, 2020

To the CCP and elected officials:

I write in opposition to the expansion of the MLK Bid #8 for several reasons. Since the 1970's I have worked with the City, County, and many departments to ensure neighborhood stability, safety, and cohesion. Many neighborhood improvements that occurred over the last few years and are underway, have taken place with great community input and collaboration throughout the years: which included monitoring and preparing for unwarranted conditions (such as sewer rats), interior damage to properties due to construction, and damages to water lines both to streets and homes. We were also able to warn and remind the various departments that this land has underground river and swamp land which continues to cause problems. There are several projects which we are continuing to work on which we hope are not canceled or obstructed due to our opposition to the BID and the right to express our disagreements as we are open to listening to proposals and sharing our opposition.

The suddenness and hastiness of the this BID expansion has caused those of us who work, live and play in the area fear retaliation, gentrification, and the creation of what could be a Cabrera-Green being widened as we are left to the whims as we do not desire the constant money-changers, selling and reselling of properties. 5 Points and our community desires to reap the fruit of our labor keeping a place of peace for the time we have left and leaving something to our families. We want a place of our own to raise our families that we are proud of. It is my hope that this letter and those of the residents and business owners within the area in opposition are not met with a relaxation of services, lack of response and support, dearth of resources (financial and people) and organizers, and the ability to purchase and renovate and redevelop our area on our own.

As President (who has listened to resident fears and opposition) and a lifetime resident, I cannot support the extension of this BID.

Samuel Sims, 5 points President



5 Points Art Gallery & Studios LLC <5pointsartgalleryandstudios@gmail.com>

My Opposition Letter to MLK Bid Expansion - Pamela L. Harrell

1 message

Pamela Harrell <pamela.l.harrell@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 15, 2020 at 1:15 PM

To: planadmin@milwaukee.gov, rep.bowen@legis.wi.gov, sen.taylor@legis.wisconsin.gov, mayor@milwaukee.gov, Cavalier.Johnson2@milwaukee.gov, nkovac@milwaukee.gov, ahamil@milwaukee.gov, Khalif.Rainey@milwaukee.gov, mmurph@milwaukee.gov, russell.stamper@milwaukee.gov, JoseG.Perez@milwaukee.gov, Five Points <5pnamil@gmail.com>

Bcc: 5pointsartgalleryandstudios@gmail.com

I am Pamela L. Harrell. I reside at 3813 N. 6th St. in the 5 Points Neighborhood on the northside of Milwaukee. I moved here with my parents when I was 13 years old and I now own their house. I can remember jumping rope on the same side walk I now shovel.

I am quite disturbed, to find out as a 53-year resident, that my neighborhood is being taken over by major redevelopment and by the MLK Bid without being made aware nor included in the planning. There should have been an outdoor town hall or zoom meeting for all the residents of the 5 Points Neighborhood Association area. These meetings would have been used to inform the residents of the impact to the neighborhood and allow us to ask questions and have input. That's how they treat residents in the suburbs!

The MLK Bid Board doesn't even have representation from the 5PNA Board or, for that matter, any residents who live in the 5PNA area, who will be affected by the expansion.

I'm scared and hoping that the MLK board along with the City of Milwaukee is not going to bring gentrification to the 5 Points Neighborhood like they did to the Brewers Hills area and what's occurring in Halyard Park. They were told their taxes would not skyrocket and in one year it did. Homeowners, retired and living on fixed incomes, were forced out of these homes they had been in for 25 years or more. I want to be able to leave my home to my children and grandchildren like my parents did for me.

We want meetings and input before any expansion or redevelopment occurs in our neighborhood. And we don't want to move. I am not in support of the MLK Bid coming this way or the redevelopment.

Concerned Neighbor and Taxpayer
Pamela L. Harrell
414-388-7930

8/16/2020

To the CPC and elected representatives

Re: proposed expansion of the Historic King Drive BID

Dear Committee:

As the meeting is virtual which gives even more limited access for comprehensive input from this area, I write to state my opposition to the expansion of the Historic King Drive BID. My basis is formed by the current community and city status, need for up to date information and based on current economic, political and social climates.

Here are several reasons; I feel it counterproductive and resultant in intended and unintended negative community and business impacts.

- 1) Lack of widespread community input and information regarding the initiators of the petition for expansion, education, and open residential opportunity as hire on the board (one without overlapping ties and overlapping vested interests and two who may have served the community in some way)
- 2) Lack of notification on a whole to all parties, residents, businesses and nonprofits as well as churches and other organizations in the area
- 3) As Milwaukee's largest BID, the generation and use of funds dedicated to the current residential and main street areas and surrounding area; and, some of the adverse effects on property owners and resources/funding/efforts as a whole to make the current area appealing (and a need for reanalysis based upon effects of current economic, political, health crisis)
- 4) Components of WI Act 184 and amendments as well as publication and notifications adjusted to fit the current economic, health, political, and access to information crisis)
- 5) Parties within proposed current and future boundaries not receiving or even given notice that there is an economic analysis as described in the WI Constitution, Bid Requirements that are available or mailed after receipt of the informational letter
- 6) Gentrification, displacement, undue economic hardships, foreclosure, mental and psychological effects on those aging individuals, in their twilight year and have paid for triple the asking price of their homes
- 7) Strain on the infrastructure: a complete environmental and services analysis (i.e., some current developments have already affected water levels, electricity supply, neighborhood environments and infrastructure, etc)

- 8) Previously overlapping BIDs, NIDS, HGNI's, NSPs, TINs with minimal results and initiative to cover certain areas (i.e., Keefe Avenue traffic calming measures with no results)

Whereas we all work to achieve community development, beautification, and restoration (such as the Black Holocaust Museum, The Retreat, some home improvement opportunities, and even what could result in a revenue stream for the city given the redevelopment of the King Library with the apartments being city owned and potentially generating revenue as a city owned building), stabilized neighborhoods with current homeowners and lifetime or long-term resident, occupants, business owners, etc.. and the appeal newness can add, there are major concerns that vested parties may undergo undue hardships. Research demonstrates *inherent exploitation and gentrification of residents is not the goal* and is a result of such proposals.

This points to the original WI Constitution components of homeownership, women's rights, homesteading and ethnic inclusive and territorial rights that caused delays in the acceptance of the originally proposed WI Constitution and delayed Wisconsin's becoming a state, (WI Blue book).

Research in WI, CA, PA, and other cities and countries like the UK also reveal that "community engagement is important to determine if a district is feasible and organizations must be able to provide revenue streams to leverage funding from the BID.

Research also revealed that the City of Milwaukee was sued for unlawful BID assessments as well as a multitude of outcry and reevaluation of property assessments "across the city, not exclusive to the Brewer's Hill area," and a deal of unsatisfied residents and business owners as well as other organizations in areas where some BIDs currently exist. In addition, some businesses whose cries for assistance and services were not answered or address by various BIDs. (i.e., one pays 20K a year for sanitation services).

Given the current health crisis due to Covid 19 and its multiple unpredictable strain, the economic hardships endured by residents and business in the current area, foreclosures and evictions, the implementation of the BID at this time is now premature, unpredictable, and in need of updating with current numbers of businesses (sharing which businesses initiated the plea for expansion). Updated information on the number of existing businesses or projected businesses that already have community support with widespread community notification and education on BIDs (research reveals these are best practices) and a plan to address what will displace and gentrify individuals.

Current NID, BID, displacement/anti-displacement/gentrification, emergency funds etc, have surprise results that harm, even if they exist in critical states, communities, affected individual homeownership, budgets, families, mental health status, and caused grave disturbances to twilight individuals whose familiarity with their homes and areas have provided a sense of stability within itself (as developing at a rapid pace causes a panic and fear and lack of familiarity).

I reemphasize my objection to the BID expansion with some research and request for updated information, widespread community engagement and notification by mail to residents within all proposed boundaries now and in the near future and education. Please note with current health crisis and lack of access to technology and work schedules of those who may have access and the economic impact on individuals, and businesses alike, this BID's expansion, on my part, has inherent deficits, defects, and intended and unintended outcomes which will defeat its proposed expansion. I am more than sure that there are discretionary funds and other remaining funds that are available for use to provide greater notification and education for all.

Sincerely,

Sysmith
groverheights@gmail.com