

Elmer, Linda

From: Owczarski, Jim
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 9:50 AM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Fw: To be added: COMMON COUNCIL FILE 200377, ITEM #87 - OPPOSITION to the Historic King Dr. BID No. 8
Attachments: resident letters.pdf; residential opposition petitions.pdf; commercial business opposition petitions.pdf; original & revised bid map.pdf; mlk bid response to requested documents.pdf

For the file.

Jim

From: 5 Points Art Gallery & Studios LLC <5pointsartgalleryandstudios@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 9:43 AM
To: wi04ima@mail.house.gov <wi04ima@mail.house.gov>; planadmin <planadmin@milwaukee.gov>; Owczarski, Jim <jowcza@milwaukee.gov>; Little, Kenneth <Kenneth.Little@milwaukee.gov>; Martinez, Natanael <Natanael.Martinez@milwaukee.gov>; Acquah, Terence <tacqua@milwaukee.gov>; Leichtling, Samuel <Samuel.Leichtling@milwaukee.gov>; govinfo@wisconsin.gov <govinfo@wisconsin.gov>; eversinfo@wisconsin.gov <eversinfo@wisconsin.gov>; ltgov@wisconsin.gov <ltgov@wisconsin.gov>; rep.bowen@legis.wi.gov <rep.bowen@legis.wi.gov>; sen.taylor@legis.wisconsin.gov <sen.taylor@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Mayor Tom Barrett <mayor@milwaukee.gov>; Johnson, Cavalier <Cavalier.Johnson2@milwaukee.gov>; Kovac, Nik <nkovac@milwaukee.gov>; Hamilton, Ashanti <ahamil@milwaukee.gov>; Rainey, Khalif <Khalif.Rainey@milwaukee.gov>; Murphy, Michael (Alderman) <mmurph@milwaukee.gov>; Stamper II, Russell <Russell.StamperII@milwaukee.gov>; Perez, Jose <JoseG.Perez@milwaukee.gov>; Bauman, Robert <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>; Lewis, Chantia <Chantia.Lewis@milwaukee.gov>; Coggs, Milele <mcoggs@milwaukee.gov>; Dodd, Nikiya <ALD05@milwaukee.gov>; Spiker, Scott <Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov>; Dimitrijevic, Marina <Marina@milwaukee.gov>; Borkowski, Mark <Mark.Borkowski@milwaukee.gov>; Five Mil <5pnamil@gmail.com>
Subject: To be added: COMMON COUNCIL FILE 200377, ITEM #87 - OPPOSITION to the Historic King Dr. BID No. 8

Honorable Council Members,

Tomorrow, September 22, 2020, during the Common Council Meeting, you will have before you a resolution to expand the Historic King Drive BID #8. It is listed as Item No. 87, File 200377. We have previously denoted the fact that the BID did not have meetings prior to all of this to notify and explain this annexation to residents and business owners. If you are not aware of these facts, we have included previous emails, letters and an Op-Ed published in Milwaukee Neighborhood News and Urban Milwaukee, chronicling this absence of communication. We, the residents and business owners of the 5 Points Neighborhood Association would like to reiterate our staunch opposition to this expansion.

In a little more than a week after the CED Meeting held on September 9, 2020, we collected signatures throughout all portions of the proposed annexed areas. In the Northern portion of the BID expansion, we have collected 13 signatures accounting for 14 businesses in the annexed area.

Whereas, the initial petition sheet from the MLK BID, dated the week of 8/10/20, one week before the pre-scheduled August 17, 2020 CPC Meeting, had signatures from 8 building owners accounting for 11 commercial properties, 2 of which that have recently signed in opposition to the BID as shown in the attached file. Please Note: The petitions in support of the MLK BID expansion were to have been submitted to the file long before the CPC Meeting to even justify the expansion. Also, within this one-week timeframe post CED Meeting, we have also collected over 120 signatures in opposition of the annexation, from residents who reside in the proposed annexed areas of the MLK BID expansion.

We have been asked "What is it you all fighting for? Why are you all opposed to the BID?" The answer is simple: we are fighting to protect our community from the control of those who live outside of our neighborhood. More precisely we are fighting off gentrification. We are also fighting off the privatization of services we already pay the city via our taxes to perform. This BID expansion represents gentrification and privatization of public services.

In order for us to have gained a successful petition to stop this expansion, or at the very least have it sent back to committee for more discussion, we would have had to have gotten 40% of the assessed value of the annexed portions. This annexed portion includes all building owners who own the property at the southern portion of the BID, immediately adjacent to downtown and adjacent to the revived Fiserv Forum. With this in mind and accounting for the way the current BID system is set up, this MLK BID is actually being run by those who have the highest assessments on their property and that would be the aforementioned building owners adjacent to downtown. We have been told that this is a "Black BID for the expansion of Black Business", but unfortunately that's just not the case. The majority of the property owners we obtained signatures from for our petition are minority and are from the northerly proposed annexed portion. We all know of Milwaukee's terrible history with redlining and according to the way the bid is set up it would take multiple minority building owners to match the influence on the BID of one white property owner in the southern, downtown area. This is the budding nature of gentrification at its core. This is what we are fighting against and why we are opposed to the BID, that is being hastily forced upon us.

We, the residents and business owners of the 5 Points Neighborhood, ask that you vote to hold this resolution and allow for our voices to be truly heard. We ask that you not be complicit with the MLK BID's gerrymandering of borders in an attempt to silence the voices and votes of the residents of this area. We ask that you not follow and continue the trend of our communities being controlled and displaced by those who are not of our neighborhoods. We ask that you hear our voices even if others have chosen to turn a deaf ear to our cries.

Thank you for your time and your support.

[Op-Ed \(Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service\)](#)

[Op-Ed \(Urban Milwaukee\)](#)

[5PNA Press Release \(Urban Milwaukee\)](#)

5 Points Neighborhood Association, Member
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