

Elmer, Linda

From: Justin Bielinski <justinbielinski@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 5:05 PM
To: Elmer, Linda
Subject: Property on the corner of Greenfield and Layton Blvd

To whom it may concern,

My name is Justin Bielinski, and am an owner-occupant along with my wife at 2923 W Mitchell St, just 2 blocks west of the S Layton Blvd National and State Historic District.

I am writing to ***voice my opposition to the raze order***, to be heard next Wednesday, for the property at the corner of S Layton Blvd and W Greenfield Ave. I believe it is owned by the Notre Dame School.

I understand that property rights are a very strong and important part of our American system, and generally try to avoid weighing in on what property owners should and should not do with their property.

However, in this case, I think there are a few compelling reasons why the building should not be demolished.

1. It is a historic building in a historic district. - The S Layton Blvd corridor is a state and nationally-registered historic district. The property, much like my home, is around 100 years old. Once these buildings come down, we do not get them back.
2. It is an anchor property on a block that in many ways demarks a sharp line between neighborhoods. - East of the property, the neighborhood is known for human trafficking and drug dealing. West, it is known as a quiet residential area. I worry that taking out an anchor like this may increase perceptions of blight in the area.

I realize that the Notre Dame School would like to expand their playground, and have no problem with this in principle. I would offer a possible solution:

-Notre Dame work with the Alderman and local developers to find a tenant or buyer for the property, and at the same time work with adjacent properties east of the school for the possible playground expansion

Respectfully submitted,
Justin Bielinski