

September 9, 2019

To: Mayor and Town Council

From: East Franklin Neighborhood Steering Committee & Neighbors

Subject: East Franklin Neighborhood Preservation

On behalf of the residents of the East Franklin neighborhood, which includes the Franklin-Rosemary Historic District, we submit this petition to the Town Council.

Our neighborhood is characterized by many historic, lovely homes in which the residents take a lot of pride, as do the people of Chapel Hill. We are also a real neighborhood with a very vibrant “aging in place” initiative that provides help to neighbors when needed and hosts many social activities, including two picnics a year. We know and care about our neighbors and our neighborhood.

We are concerned that our neighborhood is in danger of becoming a majority rental community. Many large historic homes are being broken up into student and multi-family rentals with all the attendant noise, traffic, parking, and crowding that often characterize rental neighborhoods. On North Street close to 50% of the houses are rentals.

Over the last year we have met with members of the Town Council and the Planning Staff to share our concerns about threats to the character of the Franklin-Rosemary Historic District. The town has listened and has been very responsive. We are now at a point where we need help and are requesting assistance from town leaders.

Specifically, we are requesting:

1. That the Council develop regulations to protect the character of our unique neighborhood. The issues we are facing are beyond the purview of the Historic District Committee, so it is necessary that the Council take additional actions to address our needs.

2. That the anticipated work group that will address issues regarding short-term rentals be expanded to include student rentals as well. Many of the issues are similar (i.e., investors buying properties to use solely as rentals) and would be addressed more effectively if studied together. We believe that coordinated guidelines and regulations, unique to Chapel Hill, for both short term and student rentals will contribute to neighborhood preservation and at the same time will ensure fair competition for the heavily regulated hotel industry, contribute revenue for the town, and ensure the safety of renters. We are requesting that someone from our neighborhood who is familiar with our concerns be a member of this work group.

We appreciate your consideration of this petition and we look forward to continuing to work with the town staff and Council on this issue of critical importance to both our neighborhood and the Town of Chapel Hill.

Respectfully,

Linda, Brown, Shelley deFosset, Pat Lowry, Philip Klemmer, Don Liner, Janet Smith

Signed:

1. Janet Smith, 108 Rose Lane
2. Roy Smith, 108 Rose Lane
3. Shelley deFosset, Hillsborough St.
4. Julia Grumbles, 350 Tenney Circle
5. Bill Grumbles, 350 Tenney Circle
6. Bethann Horey, 611 E. Rosemary Street
7. Karla McPherson, 505 North St.
8. Melissa Bullard, 510 North St.
9. Michael McVaugh, 379 Tenney Circle
10. Julia McVaugh, 379 Tenney Circle
11. Lisa McCubbin, 329 Tenney Circle
12. Peter McCubbin, 329 Tenney Circle
13. Olympia Stone, 404 Hillsborough St.
14. Joe Patterson, 7 Cobb Terrace
15. Debbie Finn, Carol Woods, recently of Hillsborough St.
16. Arthur Finn, Carol Woods, recently of Hillsborough St.
17. Cecelia Jolls, 2 Mint Springs Rd
18. Bob Jolls, 2 Mint Springs Rd
19. Nancy Preston, 517 North St.
20. Ed Preston, 517 North St.
21. Susan Moffatt, 7 Lone Pine Rd.
22. Iris Schwintzer, 19 Cobb Terrace
23. James Moeser, 505 North Boundary St.
24. Susan Moeser, 505 North Boundary St.
25. Mary L. Flynn, 400 Bowling Creek Rd.
26. Lisa Slatt, 402 Bowling Creek Rd.
27. Alan Spanos, 402 Bowling Creek Rd.
28. Philip Klemmer, N. Boundary St.
29. Linda Klemmer, N. Boundary St.
30. Regina Wheeler, 1 Cobb Terr.
31. Sandra Freeman, 615 East Rosemary St
32. Lee Berkowitz, 615 East Rosemary St.
33. Charles Coble, 109 Rose Lane
34. Diana Coble, 109 Rose Lane
35. Charles D. Liner, 360 Tenney Circle
36. Camilla Tulloch, 360 Tenney Circle
37. Rebecca Goz, 308 Long Pine
38. Tom Nuzum, 213 Boundary
39. Jean Nuzum, 213 Boundary
40. Tim Kerry, 206 Hillsborough Street
41. Katherine Daulton, 206 Hillsborough Street
42. Pat Lowry, 407 North Street
43. Lou O'Shea 401 Bowling Creek
44. Mike O'Shea, 401 Bowling Creek
45. Linda Brown, 214 Boundary Street
46. Thomas Lundsford, 357 Tenney Circle
47. Julia Lundsford, 357 Tenney Circle
48. Brian Herndon, 307 Hillsborough

49. Hattie King, 601 Boundary
50. Joeseeph Viscomi, 514 North Street
51. Maria Fernandez, 514 North Street
52. Tanya Freeman, 309 Hillsborough
53. Keith Freeman, 309 Hillsborough
54. Sandra Prentiss, 345 Tenney Circle
55. Kathern Kopp, 501 East Rosemary St.
56. Vince Kopp, 501 East Rosemary St.
56. Pam Weiden, North St.
57. Conrad Weiden, North St.
58. Catherine Williams, 3 Mint Springs Rd.
59. Rob Williams, 3 Mint Springs Rd.
60. Arnie Grosblatt, 505 North St.
61. Becky Cobey, 303 Lone Pine
62. Munroe Cobey, 303 Lone Pine
63. Chris Belcher, 5 Cobb Ter