



November 16, 2022

*Re: Park + Housing at 1714 Legion Road*

Dear Mayor Hemminger and Town Council,

The undersigned community members—a diverse group of people who live in, work in, and/or regularly visit Chapel Hill—support the Town’s longstanding vision to utilize the vacant 1714 Legion Road parcel to address multiple community goals, most importantly creating a park and affordable housing. The 36.2 acre vacant parcel of land at 1714 Legion Road was [acquired by the Town in 2017](#) for \$7.9M with the specific and publicly stated intention of creating a mix of uses, including a park and housing. It is time for the Town to move this consensus vision forward to ensure that the site serves high priority community interests in line with adopted Town plans and public policy objectives. Creating a vibrant site that includes a park and affordable housing will benefit residents of nearby neighborhoods as well as community members across Chapel Hill for decades to come.

We look forward to participating in a Town-led engagement process in the months ahead to share our ideas, and to hear from others across the community, about the mix of uses and design features for the Legion site. We expect this public input process to be conducted within clear Council-established parameters that ensure the final plan will include a beautiful public park and [much-needed affordable housing](#). The park should include open space and active recreation features that respond to public input, while the housing should serve people like health care workers, public safety professionals, service sector staff, people with intellectual disabilities, fixed-income seniors, and other essential members of the community who face barriers to housing because of its high cost and limited availability.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership and public service. We look forward to celebrating the groundbreaking for a park and affordable housing with you!

Sincerely,  
Orange County Affordable Housing Coalition (OCAHC)  
Email: [ochousingcoalition@gmail.com](mailto:ochousingcoalition@gmail.com)  
Website: <http://www.orangehousing.org/>



Name	Comment
<b>Martin Johnson</b>	"We've talked about the American Legion property for decades. We need more affordable housing and more park space NOW."
<b>Simon Palmore</b>	"We have an affordable housing crisis in Chapel Hill. The time to act is now."
<b>Dan Levine</b>	"Parks and affordable housing are two things we need more of in Chapel Hill. I live in the adjacent neighborhood and I'm excited to have new neighbors and new parks space!"
<b>Matt Bailey</b>	"The choice is simple: We can have an amazing new park AND new homes for new neighbors OR we can have an increasingly decrepit abandoned lot. As someone who actually lives in the area, I vote for the new park and new homes."
<b>Seth Anthony</b>	"We need more great parks in Chapel Hill and we need more housing in Chapel Hill. This proposal helps solve two problems at once!"
<b>Tomee Howard</b>	"This is such a large piece of property. I think it should include a park since this area doesn't have one and affordable SENIOR housing since it's within walking distance of everything we need and it's on a bus line. Please consider this."
<b>William Chicurel</b>	"We have the means to help transform the affordable housing crisis in Chapel Hill. ACT NOW!!!"
<b>Blanca Gonzalez</b>	"It's desperately needed (particularly for special needs, disable & the elderly!) but has always been a need, now more than ever with inflation!"
<b>Veronica O'Neill</b>	"Housing is a human right"
<b>Rebecca Fox</b>	"My parents' first date was at the American Legion, but that doesn't mean this entire town needs to be preserved in amber! Chapel Hill is too expensive for working people, and forcing teachers, nurses, et al to commute from further and further away is bad for the environment and splinters what could be a vibrant, fun community. The American Legion land is just a bunch of overgrown grass. We don't need a tick farm, we need an actually usable park and affordable housing!"
<b>Sarah Swann</b>	"Affordable housing is important to me"



<b>Orah Raia</b>	"Given the size of this parcel of land there is no reason Chapel Hill cannot fulfill the need for park space AND housing...there's no valid reason to not support both."
<b>Preston Clarke</b>	"Makes sense! Our area recently lost a lot of affordable housing at Legion and Ephesus and I love jogging and walking my dogs on the legion property just steps from my house. Seems like a win-win!"





	<b>Signatures</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Molly De Marco</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Donna Carrington</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Kimberly Sanchez</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Melody Kramer</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Martin Johnson</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Sue Hunter</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Ryan Byars</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>John Rees</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Simon Palmore</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Renna Voss</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Kyle Onda</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Alyson West</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Karen Tucker</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Mychal Weinert</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Jon Springfield</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Kiana Burns</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Dan Levine</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Stephen Whitlow</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Allison De Marco</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Kathy Kaufman</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>Greear Webb</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Diana beth</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>kat lowe</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>Ali ebadi</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>Deborah Miles</b>





26	<b>Ben Smith</b>
27	<b>Kristen Smith</b>
28	<b>Matt Bailey</b>
29	<b>Andrew Thornton</b>
30	<b>Amy Levine</b>
31	<b>Ben Brown</b>
32	<b>Seth Anthony</b>
33	<b>Benjamin Blaisdell</b>
34	<b>Bri Thompson</b>
35	<b>Mike Dixon</b>
36	<b>Barbara Keyworth</b>
37	<b>Ellie Levine</b>
38	<b>David Anderson</b>
39	<b>Catherine Whitt</b>
40	<b>Henry Gargan</b>
41	<b>Geoffrey Green</b>
42	<b>Kristie Mather</b>
43	<b>Sylvie Currat</b>
44	<b>Altha Cravey</b>
45	<b>Julie Marshall</b>
46	<b>Claire Clarke</b>
47	<b>Kristyn Yelton</b>
48	<b>Lora Klein</b>
49	<b>Bes Baldwin</b>
50	<b>Colin McCarville</b>
51	<b>Pamela Hamilton</b>
52	<b>Michael Rodgers</b>





53	<b>Nancy Duffner</b>
54	<b>Tomee Howard</b>
55	<b>Sally Gillooly</b>
56	<b>Daniel Bullock</b>
57	<b>Maggi Grace</b>
58	<b>Erika Walker</b>
59	<b>Alice Jacoby</b>
60	<b>Laura Wells</b>
61	<b>William Chicurel</b>
62	<b>Cora Martin</b>
63	<b>Gordy Moore</b>
64	<b>Janet Flowers</b>
65	<b>Lanier Blum</b>
66	<b>Heidi Chapman</b>
67	<b>Laura Henderson</b>
68	<b>Anna Ward</b>
69	<b>Cristina Flake</b>
70	<b>Jeremy Tidmore</b>
71	<b>Kim Feller</b>
72	<b>Carla Bernstein</b>
73	<b>Carol Conway</b>
74	<b>Mohammad Behnam</b>
75	<b>Jayleen Smith</b>
76	<b>Blanca Gonzalez</b>
77	<b>Christopher Adams</b>
78	<b>Vena Campbell</b>
79	<b>Laura Stern</b>





80	Emma Olson
81	Dawn Selby
82	Randi Davenport
83	Walter Bennett
84	Margaret Pendzich
85	John Pendzich
86	Krista Caraway
87	Kathleen Herr
88	Owen Phillips
89	Martha Harris
90	Jane Hathaway
91	Cynthia Harris
92	Daniele Berman
93	Brian Reid
94	Christine Abernathy
95	Cameron Barr
96	Mariela Hernandez
97	Carol Gunther-Mohr
98	CHRISTY JONES
99	Rebecca Barbee
100	Sheryl Ponciano
101	Jon Haebig
102	Shauna Farmer
103	Grace Witsil
104	Alice Levine
105	Lilia Tome





106	<b>Tom Fenn</b>
107	<b>Christine Agamaite</b>
108	<b>Jim Coleman</b>
109	<b>Shau-hong Toscano</b>
110	<b>Marti Knisley</b>
111	<b>Scott Reifsnyder</b>
112	<b>Jane Stein</b>
113	<b>Farley Bernholz</b>
114	<b>Roman Pendzich</b>
115	<b>Barbara Wildemuth</b>
116	<b>Allana Minnick</b>
117	<b>Lori Walker</b>
118	<b>Susan Astre</b>
119	<b>Jacques Astre</b>
120	<b>Gaylen Brubaker</b>
121	<b>Anna Gustaveson</b>
122	<b>Linda Kastleman</b>
123	<b>Elizabeth Crais</b>
124	<b>Kara Hume</b>
125	<b>Veronica O'Neill</b>
126	<b>Brentton Harrison</b>
127	<b>Susan Brandt</b>
128	<b>Jackson Roush</b>
129	<b>Diane Siebrasse</b>
130	<b>P Pande</b>
131	<b>Sandy Lange</b>
132	<b>Laura Herr</b>





133	<b>Denise Lloyd</b>
134	<b>Christopher Dale</b>
135	<b>Mitch Herndon</b>
136	<b>Tab Combs</b>
137	<b>Anne Beaven</b>
138	<b>Rebecca Fox</b>
139	<b>Kurt Stolka</b>
140	<b>Ellen Danzis</b>
141	<b>Hollie Taylor Novak</b>
142	<b>Annie Dude</b>
143	<b>Elizabeth Evans</b>
144	<b>Leah Sweatt</b>
145	<b>Taylor Oakley</b>
146	<b>Inessa Fishbeyn</b>
147	<b>Emma Rogers</b>
148	<b>Meghan Johnson</b>
149	<b>Jacob Grove</b>
150	<b>Jon Powell</b>
151	<b>Emily McCarthy</b>
152	<b>Madi Parker</b>
153	<b>Erica Cook</b>
154	<b>Daniel David</b>
155	<b>Ruchir Vora</b>
156	<b>Darren Hunicutt</b>
157	<b>Lisa Bohn</b>
158	<b>Lucretia Dickson</b>





159	<b>Katherine Pinard</b>
160	<b>Hannah Byrum</b>
161	<b>karen demby</b>
162	<b>Linda Varblow</b>
163	<b>Jan French</b>
164	<b>joel shaffer</b>
165	<b>Sol Hunicutt</b>
166	<b>Kakki Sellars</b>
167	<b>Charlotte Horton</b>
168	<b>kai miller</b>
169	<b>Phil Wintermute</b>
170	<b>Vanessa Franco</b>
171	<b>Abdul lateef</b>
172	<b>Helen C. (Holly) Riddle</b>
173	<b>David Green</b>
174	<b>Lucy Schimmelfing</b>
175	<b>Steven Jones</b>
176	<b>Ann O'Neill</b>
177	<b>Sarah Swann</b>
178	<b>Adriana Diaz</b>
179	<b>Andra Wilkinson</b>
180	<b>Neal Englert</b>
181	<b>Robin Hennessey Butler</b>
182	<b>Patricia Roush</b>
183	<b>Hannah Hodson McLean</b>





184	<b>Sarah McDaniel</b>
185	<b>CJ Guida</b>
186	<b>Ashley Taylor</b>
187	<b>Justin Haslett</b>
188	<b>Mark Edwards</b>
189	<b>Kayla Burget</b>
190	<b>Eleanor Slyman</b>
191	<b>John Sokolowski</b>
192	<b>Anna Millar</b>
193	<b>Phil Stapleton</b>
194	<b>Kristen Brookshire</b>
195	<b>Marisa Beatty</b>
196	<b>Emma Stapleton</b>
197	<b>Christina Hilliard</b>
198	<b>Ann Spitler</b>
199	<b>John Lohnes</b>
200	<b>Robin Barrett</b>
201	<b>Alyn Valdivia</b>
202	<b>Krissy Dunn</b>
203	<b>Nikita Zaretsky</b>
204	<b>Kaitlyn Kopala</b>
205	<b>Michael Sigmund</b>
206	<b>Delores Bailey</b>
207	<b>Ansel Prichard</b>
208	<b>Grace Johnston</b>
209	<b>Katie Walker</b>





210	<b>Lisa Amodei</b>
211	<b>Savannah Allred</b>
212	<b>Judit Alvarado</b>
213	<b>Logan McVey</b>
214	<b>Michael Magoon</b>
215	<b>Sonia Molina Nava</b>
216	<b>Sam Ahmadi</b>
217	<b>William Griffith</b>
218	<b>Jose Salinas</b>
219	<b>Missy Quintero</b>
220	<b>Legrand Odom</b>
221	<b>James Buckalew</b>
222	<b>Kelly Giovanelli</b>
223	<b>Matthew Helgeson</b>
224	<b>Vitor Augusto Santos</b>
225	<b>Ginny Dropkin</b>
226	<b>Victoria Bimblich</b>
227	<b>Nancy Heller</b>
228	<b>Owen Atchison</b>
229	<b>Jeevika Cadambi</b>
230	<b>Philip Goldberg</b>
231	<b>Melonie R</b>
232	<b>Linda Lapp</b>
233	<b>Manuel Herrera</b>
234	<b>Nayely Servellon</b>
235	<b>Nicole Bracho</b>





236	<b>Luz Milagros Mojica Febres</b>
237	<b>Manuel agosto Espinoza</b>
238	<b>Henry Shriver</b>
239	<b>Lincy Escobar</b>
240	<b>Jordan Snow</b>
241	<b>Richard Nieves</b>
242	<b>Laine Staton</b>
243	<b>James Yankaskas</b>
244	<b>Rick Tugwell</b>
245	<b>Dawn Culton</b>
246	<b>Samantha Hamburger</b>
247	<b>Amanda Maxson</b>
248	<b>Erin Katz</b>
249	<b>Makenna Brandt</b>
250	<b>Carlton Johnson</b>
251	<b>Amber Waake</b>
252	<b>Zena Hamilton</b>
253	<b>Matt Trower</b>
254	<b>Valerie Sauer</b>
255	<b>Catharine Reagan</b>
256	<b>Lacey Frownfelter</b>
257	<b>Ian Goymer</b>
258	<b>Gianna Seminara</b>
259	<b>Michael James</b>
260	<b>Isabel Rosero</b>
261	<b>María Alemán</b>
262	<b>Orah Raia</b>





263	Heidi Perry
264	Darian Buck
265	Elizabeth Chen
266	Gena Brown
267	Julie Gras-Najjar
268	Leigh Berry
269	Jackson Cacioppo
270	Courtney Sears
271	Ellen Loomis
272	Erin Burgess
273	Preston Clarke
274	Joan OBrien
275	Raul Sanchez
276	Sarah Potter
277	Brian Raia
278	Darlene Laws
279	Rebecca McMurry
280	Jasmine Davidson
281	Stefanie Journigan
282	Tony Hall
283	Sarah Ward
284	Kristy Fair
285	Susannah Southern
286	Jan Trozzo
287	Eleanor Howe
288	Ann Turnbull





289	<b>Tierra Thompson</b>
290	<b>Donna Bell</b>
291	<b>Paula Reid</b>
292	<b>Shaumon Campbell</b>
293	<b>Tracy Pakornsawat</b>
294	<b>Cait Fenhagen</b>
295	<b>Olivia Linn</b>
296	<b>Eddie Burgard</b>
297	<b>John Taj Neville</b>
298	<b>Joe G</b>
299	<b>Jennifer Banich</b>
300	<b>Gabriel Spivey</b>
301	<b>Suzanne Moore</b>
302	<b>Robin Shores</b>
303	<b>Melody Baker</b>
304	<b>Daniel Kinney</b>
305	<b>Rachel Bearman</b>
306	<b>William Neville</b>
307	<b>Hsar Wei</b>
308	<b>Isabella Valdivia</b>
309	<b>Richard Humbles</b>
310	<b>Thomas Crowe-Allbritton</b>
311	<b>Ni ni Ksor</b>
312	<b>Eva Manglona</b>
313	<b>Abby Allred</b>
314	<b>Chaniya Williams</b>
315	<b>Aaron Fricke</b>





<b>316</b>	<b>Rea Aarnio</b>
<b>317</b>	<b>Jaylen Spencer</b>
<b>318</b>	<b>Kayla Shelton</b>
<b>319</b>	<b>Elizabeth Velez</b>
<b>320</b>	<b>Anabell Oliveras Rivera</b>
<b>321</b>	<b>Lauren Goldberg</b>
<b>322</b>	<b>Bryan Gibson</b>
<b>323</b>	<b>Erin Magee</b>
<b>324</b>	<b>Eric Knight</b>
<b>325</b>	<b>Will Halman</b>
<b>326</b>	<b>Douglas Call</b>
<b>327</b>	<b>Jonathan Peralta</b>
<b>328</b>	<b>Jadyn Jones</b>
<b>329</b>	<b>Elizabeth Freeman</b>
<b>330</b>	<b>Ashley Shen</b>
<b>331</b>	<b>Paul Brown</b>
<b>332</b>	<b>Kaleb Williamson</b>
<b>333</b>	<b>Joann Haggerty</b>
<b>334</b>	<b>Sarah Sandell</b>
<b>335</b>	<b>Amya Owens</b>
<b>336</b>	<b>Michael Glasgow</b>
<b>337</b>	<b>Michelle Soto Rodriguez</b>