

**Amy Harvey**

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**From:** Jeanette Coffin  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 12, 2018 9:02 AM  
**To:** Doug Rothwell  
**Cc:** Dwight Bassett; Sarah Poulton; CHRIS BLUE; Allen Buansi; Donna Bell; Hongbin Gu; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Lindsey Bineau; Michael Parker; Nancy Oates; Pam Hemminger; Rachel Schaewitz; Town Council; Amy Harvey; Carolyn Worsley; Catherine Lazorko; Flo Miller; Laura Selmer; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Rae Buckley; Ralph Karpinos; Roger Stancil; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver  
**Subject:** email....RE: Council Meeting Input

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

If your email is related to a development application or a particular issue being addressed by the Council, your comments will be made part of the record. If applicable, we encourage you to attend any public meetings related to the items addressed in your email.

Again, thank you for your message.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Coffin



Jeanette Coffin  
Office Assistant  
[Town of Chapel Hill Manager's Office](#)  
[405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.](#)  
[Chapel Hill, NC 27514](#)  
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

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**From:** Doug Rothwell [mailto:[adrothwell@gmail.com](mailto:adrothwell@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 11, 2018 6:36 PM  
**To:** Town Council <[mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org)>  
**Subject:** Council Meeting Input

I understand you will be discussing the work plan for downtown activities this week. As a downtown resident and champion of the Downtown Seasonal Cleaning Initiative, I want to express my strong support for the priority the Town places on the downtown. Just as the University's image cannot be separated from Chapel Hill, nor can Chapel Hill's reputation be separated from the downtown. Therefore, I'm glad to see the Town recognizes this and is putting additional focus and resources in support of downtown development. Recent work to improve alleyways and streetscapes is really important. I'm working with Sarah Poulton to champion keeping downtown clean and well maintained to sustain the Town's investments.

There is a growing interest in people wanting to live in places that have vibrant, walkable downtowns. But Chapel Hill faces serious competition in our region to attract and retain that population. Durham and Raleigh

have several advantages over us in terms of scale, space and density - and they are aggressively developing their downtowns to accelerate progress. For example, those downtowns are successfully attracting businesses, residential developments, retailers, eateries and many other investments faster than Chapel Hill. We were once, by far, the most desirable downtown in the region. But Durham and Raleigh have narrowed that gap. I say this simply to urge that Chapel Hill build on and intensify actions to improve downtown. This would, for example, expand the current streetscape art project and continue the alleyway and streetscape improvement programs. But it should expand to:

- Proactively solicit development proposals for strategic downtown locations (such as the Rosemary and Columbia parking lot)
- Beautify iconic locations (such as Franklin and Columbia) or incompatible streetscapes (such as the auto service repair shops on the west end of Franklin)
- Establish a targeted retail attraction program to attract more distinctive retailers and eateries
- Enforce code regulations on private property owners not maintaining their properties or landscape and/or adopt new codes to achieve this goal

Downtown Chapel Hill is a great place to live. But it can be even better if the Town continues to place a greater priority on it.

Doug Rothwell ,  
140 West Franklin Street, 711

## Amy Harvey

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**From:** Jeanette Coffin  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 12, 2018 4:03 PM  
**To:** Mary Stockwell  
**Cc:** Dwight Bassett; Ben Hitchings; Allen Buansi; Donna Bell; Hongbin Gu; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Lindsey Bineau; Michael Parker; Nancy Oates; Pam Hemminger; Rachel Schaevitz; Town Council; Amy Harvey; Carolyn Worsley; Catherine Lazorko; Flo Miller; Laura Selmer; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Rae Buckley; Ralph Karpinos; Roger Stancil; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver  
**Subject:** RE: Collaboration between the Town and building owners (Amber Alley)

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

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Again, thank you for your message.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Coffin



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**From:** Mary Stockwell [mailto:stockwell@centurylink.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 12, 2018 3:51 PM  
**To:** Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>; Rae Buckley <rbuckley@townofchapelhill.org>; Sarah Poulton <spoulton@townofchapelhill.org>  
**Cc:** 'Mary Stockwell' <stockwell@centurylink.net>  
**Subject:** Collaboration between the Town and building owners (Amber Alley)

Mayor of Chapel Hill, Town Council, Sarah Poulton, and Rae Buckley,

I am writing you this letter to thank you for investing in improvements to the Town's infrastructure through your Downtown Special Projects. It helps everyone – businesses, patrons, students, and the Town itself – to make downtown Chapel Hill attractive, pleasant, and easy to access and use.

My family owns the Munch Building on East Franklin Street. We and the Grosses, who own the Sutton Building next door, own Amber Alley, a major pedestrian route between parking on Rosemary Street and shopping on Franklin Street and the UNC campus.

In 2008, you collaborated with George Draper (who owned the Sutton/Strowd Building then) and me to improve Amber Alley. You repaved it and replaced the steps at both ends, providing a walkway that is not slippery, drainage, steps that are level, and handrails. We removed all unneeded attachments from the walls of our buildings, cleaned and painted the walls, installed a canopy, and added lighting. The change was amazing.

Amber Alley, 2005



Amber Alley, 2009



More recently, Rae Buckley and Sarah Poulton have worked with us through Downtown Special Projects to further improve Amber Alley and its use. They now clean Amber Alley twice a year, and they have installed brighter and more attractive LED lighting, a meter to the Wallace Parking Deck to pay for it, and temporary signs that guide pedestrians between Wallace Parking Deck and Franklin Street through Amber Alley.

Amber Alley, 2017



Sarah has now offered to make improvements to our back alley (North Alley). She suggested cleaning up trash, relocating dumpsters and screening them with trees, and improving the public bathroom situation. We also discussed permanent signage and cleaning up the back of our building.

I am continually impressed, not only with the improvements themselves, but with the collaboration that Rae and Sarah create. Whenever Sarah offers to make improvements, she asks us, the building owners, for our ideas. Every meeting includes people from different departments and organizations, so that we have an expert for every part of the discussion. When they put the electrical line under North Alley, Sarah was in full communication and cooperation with me; our building manager, John Morris; and our tenants; and gave our tenants free parking passes in Wallace Parking Deck while the alley was undrivable. Collaboration, communication, and cooperation at every level.

Thank you for all you're doing for our property and Chapel Hill.

Mary Stockwell