

# PHOENIX REPUBLIC

MY TURN

## Work together to keep area vibrant

By Michelle Steinberg

Regarding the two opposing perspectives published Saturday in *The Phoenix Republic* on the planned urban development zoning near Seventh Street and Earll Drive.

I realize this is a moot point since the developers have since given in to the naysayers and withdrawn their application, but I would like to be heard, as this is likely not the last time we will come up against this kind of situation.

First, I would like to point out that the headline "Protect historic residences from developers," sends the very clear message that *The Republic* thinks that this project was something we need to be protected from. We do not need protection from developers; we need to be partners in supporting those who would help make our downtown communities more vibrant and desirable.

Also, the Coronado neighborhood did not oppose this project, only a few members of the board of our neighborhood association did. They purport to speak for the entire Coronado community but in fact, most certainly do not.

I come from a very different perspective on this project as a homeowner and resident in the Coronado historic district. I support this project! This venture to redevelop the Country Club Apartments is an opportunity to begin to add to and revitalize our downtown core.

It seems to me that G.G. George's perspective appears to be directing this process backward and paints it in a very negative light, which is further illustrated by the strange opposition advertisement on the prior page that depicts a vulture on an exaggerated view of the building, looking hungrily at the historic home below.

Experience has taught me that it is easier and wiser to move forward in a positive direction than backward in a negative one. I can only see an enhancement of the historic areas that surrounded this project.

These are exactly the kind of projects that will begin to transform our downtown area into a desirable place to live, work and play.

*The writer lives in central Phoenix.*