

Zoning request has followed guidelines

The Planned Urban Development zoning request for the eight-acre Phoenix Country Club apartments is not “spot zoning.” It is zoning that follows the guidelines, spirit and form that Mayor Phil Gordon and the Phoenix City Council have brought to the downtown development and revitalized our urban core.



Wayne Murray

I urge the City Council to support this project when it comes to a vote in December. Eight acres located so close to the core of our city is what this zoning was so carefully designed to do, to bring about positive lifestyle change in the way we live,

work and play.

Setting this project as an example will provide a template for future thoughtful redevelopment and accomplish the mission promised of preserving the vitality of the downtown

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neighborhoods. It will especially revitalize the historical districts by providing the density and the urban design that will make important historical heritage strong and resistant to decline well into the next century. It will be a catalysis/template for positive change that can be utilized and spread from the successes of downtown into the broader reaches of the core that are not currently included in the urban form project.

I urge the City Council to follow the thoughtful analysis of the city’s Planning Department, the affirmative action and support of the Encanto Vil-

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lage Committee and, above all, the overwhelming support of the Phoenix Planning Commission.

As a resident of the Coronado neighborhood for more than 30 years, I look forward to our new neighbors and the revitalization that will be brought to the city’s core.

During difficult economic times, innovative planning and foresight with an eye toward the future are the only ways to go. We, as a city, must view this kind of zoning as providing anchor points, much as a retail anchor tenant provides stability to a mall or shopping center.

Many businesses near the location

support the zoning request. Many more too numerous to mention have chosen this vicinity to invest and grow their dreams. Their survival as business owners and investors in downtown depend on this kind of Planned Unit Development.

We cannot just wait with empty lots, foreclosed or abandoned projects and fenced housing for things to “turn around.” Affirmative action and change are needed and are welcomed by the majority of people who support you in this decision.

The writer is a longtime resident and property owner in central Phoenix.