



LAWRENCEVILLE UNITED

A Resident Driven Organization

June 7, 2016

Attn: Zoning Board of Adjustments
City Planning
200 Ross Street
Fourth Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

RE: Zoning Case 145/16 of 2016 – 5217 Butler Street

Dear Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) Members:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of Lawrenceville United, I write this letter in regards to the proposed redevelopment of 5217 Butler Street by The Province of St Augustine of the Capuchin order, to support the exception requested by the applicant:

Special Exception 911.04.A.43 Renovation of 13,400 sq. ft. of existing structure for use as an office (general).

Lawrenceville United's mission is to improve and protect the quality of life for Lawrenceville residents through community engagement and advocacy, community restoration and beautification, and community planning and development. As part of our work, and in partnership with the Lawrenceville Corporation, we have created a community process that provides a forum where development plans and projects can be discussed, vetted, and measured against community plans and priorities. As part of this process, the local community organizations are able to identify priority issues that will help guide conversations with the developer through the planning and entitlement processes.

Due to the low impact of the proposed change, which will include interior renovation only; Lawrenceville United discussed the plans with the property owners but did not hold a general community meeting. The property owners will meet with nearby residents this summer to introduce their staff and familiarize residents with the new use. We are aware that the property owners intend to install signs in the building's first floor windows with information about their organization, that are likely to exceed the area allowed by code. We ask that they meet with nearby residents and property owners prior to their zoning hearing on this matter.

We thank Fr. John Pfannenstiel and his team for their investment in the community, and for working with the community organizations to address concerns and questions, and expect the communication to continue as the project progresses. Thank you to the ZBA for your consideration, and we hope that you consider all of the requests and concerns raised by any other Lawrenceville residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Sokoloski".

Steve Sokoloski
President Board of Directors