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September 25, 2018

Stephanie Rouse, City Planner
City of Minneapolis
CPED – Land Use, Design and Preservation
250 South 4th Street, Room 300
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Re: 8th & Portland Development Proposal in Elliot Park Neighborhood

Dear Ms. Rouse:

On September 20, 2018, Kraus-Anderson and ESG Architecture & Design presented updated plans for the 8th & Portland Development (Wells Fargo site) to the EPNI Building, Land Use, and Housing (BLUH) Committee. The group continues to support the development but would like to offer the following recommendations:

1. We encourage the development team to continue working with Metro Transit on a solution to landscaping on 8th Street. As we understand it, Metro Transit would like 8th Street to remain free of obstruction to accommodate the BRT line. We respect the concern, but stand firmly that there must be some landscaping on 8th Street as part of this redevelopment.
2. The BLUH Committee discussed the Committee of the Whole (COW) recommendation on removing the 8th Street curb cut. The group had a mixed opinion – with some supporting the curb cut and some opposing the curb cut. We support the development team in working with the City to find an appropriate solution.
3. We request consideration of widening the east-west alley on the east, between the parking ramp entrance and the private property, to match the width of the ally on the west. There is concern that the east end is too narrow to adequately handle two-way traffic.
4. In talking with a resident who owns several brownstones that abut the Wells Fargo site, the BLUH Committee requests the City consider blocking the north-south alley at the junction between the alley and the site with a bollard. A bollard would discourage vehicular traffic from moving in and out of the Wells Fargo site, while still allowing residential traffic and pedestrian flow on the southern portion of the alley.



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The EPNI Board of Directors reviewed the recommendations by the BLUH Committee and voted in favor of bringing these recommendations to your attention.

We thank both Kraus-Anderson and ESG Architecture for their continued communication with the Elliot Park neighborhood and look forward to future updates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vanessa Haight".

Vanessa Haight
Executive Director

CC. Burt Coffin, ESG Architecture & Design
Jaci Bell, Kraus-Anderson
Lisa Goodman, Seventh Ward Council Member