

East Lawrence Neighborhood Association

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TO: Diane Stoddard, Interim City Manager
FROM: Pamela Blackburn, ELNA Secretary
CC: Scott McCullough, Bobbie Walthall
DATE: August 14, 2015
RE: East Lawrence Rezoning (north of 9th)

As a result of the recently proposed development activity within East Lawrence, some residents have become concerned the area north of 9th is not zoned to current use and current zoning could encourage development that would be out of step with those existing uses. Please use this as our ELNA official request to begin the process to rezone this area to current use. Our goal is to tackle these rezoning issues immediately and then investigate initiating an Urban Conservation Overlay District for all of properties surrounding the East Ninth Project Area. These initiatives were supported by a unanimous vote from the Citizen's Advisory Committee to the East Ninth Project.

This downzoning initiative has been actively pursued independently to the ninth street project and we provide this summary as to what has been done already. A team of three people, Cynthia Trask (842 New York), Pamela Blackburn (830 Connecticut) and Rae Johnson (720 Rhode Island), conducted a straw poll of the area to determine interest of existing property owners in this rezoning initiative. Property owners were advised of basic definitions of rezoning and of urban conservation overlay. They were advised this effort was not to zone the entire area to one zone but instead to zone to current use. Most properties in the neighborhood are single-family homes zoned to RM24. The primary method of contact was knocking on doors. Some responded to articles in the bi-monthly ELNA newsletter and a few were contacted by phone. A direct mailing to property owners was not done at this time. We have attached all of our results.

Summary of results:

- 48 properties are owner occupied unattached residences
- 29 properties are in favor of rezoning to current usage
- 2 properties are not in favor of any change in current zoning
- 15 properties were not available for comment (at least 2 attempts were made to the property owner)

- 49 properties were contacted (both owner occupied and non-owner occupied)
- 45 properties are in favor of rezoning to current usage
- 4 properties are not in favor of any change in current zoning

We look forward to working with City Staff and all the folks in the affected area to build strong consensus for this pursuit.

Sincerely,

Pam Blackburn
Secretary, East Lawrence Neighborhood Association