



R. DANIEL LAVELLE



Councilman, City of Pittsburgh-District 6

Chair, Public Safety

August 3, 2017

Zoning Board of Adjustment
200 Ross St. #3
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Re: Zone Case 245 of 2017

Dear Chair Mitinger:

I have worked with the Hill District community since I was initially elected, nearly 8 years ago, to establish a community driven vision for the neighborhood. I served as the Chair of the Management Committee for the Greater Hill District Master Plan, and as a member of the executive team for the Centre Ave Redevelopment and Design Plan. I have utilized considerable City resources, both human and financial, on behalf of City residents to assure the implementation of city-endorsed community plans that promote equitable development. I am also a licensed realtor and a Hill District resident.

Based on the feedback that my office has received from constituents, stakeholders, business owners, and developers, I cannot support the approval of the requested zoning exception or variances made by Gaudenzia, Inc. for 420 Grove Street.

It is my hope that Gaudenzia will withdraw their request and re-engage the formal community review process (Development Review Panel), which unfortunately they never completed.

In many ways, the Hill District's healthy future relies on the redevelopment of the Centre Avenue corridor in a way that assures a positive economic impact that promotes job growth, real estate investment, and, yes, drug and alcohol treatment services. However, this is not the place for Gaudenzia's expansion and development. My office will continue to work with Gaudenzia to find a more suitable site that can serve their needs, if they are willing.

Sincerely,

R. Daniel Lavelle

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