From: O"Neill, Terry
To: Hayes, Michael; Whipple, Donald; Brown, Bonnie
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] 750 Shell Road Rezoning Application
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 6:00:12 PM

FYI.

I just received this email from Pastor Kenney

Terry

From: thrpastor@aol.com <thrpastor@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 4:10 PM
To: O'Neill, Terry <toneill@hampton.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 750 Shell Road Rezoning Application

Mr. O'Neill,

I am writing because of my concern about the possible rezoning of the former site of the Virginia School for the Deaf, Blind & Multi-Disabled and the designation of the site on the city's Community (Comprehensive) Plan land use map as business/industrial. When a zoning change is requested for a piece of property in the city, Planners' cannot recommend the zoning change if the Comprehensive Plan's land use map does not support the change. The comprehensive plan is a policy document. It sets land use policy for the city. The zoning of property is determined based on its identity in the comprehensive plan. Hampton's plan until 2017 identified the property as public/semi-public. Which is a use that is compatible to residential as the zoning reflects - a low density residential neighborhood which straddles residential neighborhoods in both Hampton and Newport News. It is a community of African American residential property owners and for those property owners the plan change and the proposal to change the zoning to industrial construct warehouses is an Environmental Justice (EJ) concern.

This proposal does not allow for fair treatment and meaningful involvement of the people who will be most impacted. Fair treatment means no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, and commercial operations or policies. Meaningful involvement means: Decision makers will seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected. Policies in the comprehensive plan that support keeping the site as zoned and support Environmental Justice policies are as follows**:**

LU-CD Policy 7: Safeguard the integrity of existing residential neighborhoods.

LU-CD Policy 11: Promote high quality design and site planning that is compatible with surrounding development.

LU-CD Policy 25: Promote community involvement in planning and implementation of neighborhood improvement initiatives such as neighborhood watch, streetscape

beautification, and infill development.

LU-CD Policy 29: Encourage high quality new developments that are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods.

I identified these policies knowing the weight in the plan is carried by the land use map only because as I read the minutes and watched the videos from the Planning Commission and City Council meetings that unanimously approved this Community (Comprehensive) Plan land use change to industrial I heard specifically stated that the policies in the plan would not be amended. Hampton let's do better for our community than an industrial use in the heart of an African American residential neighborhood which had no say in its proximity to the interstate, again because of policy.

Respectfully,
Rev. John F. Kenney
Pastor
Third Baptist Hampton