



Carr Square Tenant Management Corporation

1521 CARR DRIVE ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63106 (314) 588-1700

DIRECTOR/RESIDENT MANAGER
Rodney Hubbard

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Cynthia Kendall
Thelma Williams
Taneshia Dale

July 22, 2016

Mayor Francis Slay
City of St. Louis
1200 Market, City Hall, Room 200
St. Louis, MO 63103

Dear Mayor Slay,

We are writing this letter to you as you prepare for today's meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to reconsider moving forward with opening Biddle House as a homeless shelter for high acuity males in our neighborhood. We have attached a map of our neighborhood that highlights the extreme concentration of homeless shelters and halfway houses to provide some context for what follows.

We noticed yesterday that you tweeted it was reprehensible that we were fighting to improve our neighborhood. We are somewhat perplexed by what you meant. Is it really your opinion that it is reprehensible for citizens to follow the City Charter and fight for their interests? Do you feel that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment should be beyond the reach of average citizens?

We have a different view of what registers as reprehensible. For Health and Human Services Director Eddie Roth to continue to assert that our community supports the Biddle House plan is reprehensible. To move a problem from white downtown to the black community is reprehensible. To have the contempt that you have shown for our rights and views is reprehensible.

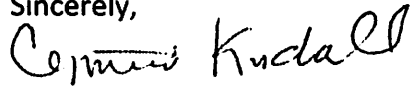
To bring in a "turnaround firm" to overhaul the St. Louis Public Schools that accelerated the decline of the school district leading to a loss of accreditation and then turnaround and concentrate on charter schools, leaving the school children affected to deal with these conditions without your help is reprehensible. To lose control of crime and murder leaving all citizens vulnerable is reprehensible.

You and your staff continue to bash Paul McKee, blaming him for our opposition to this ill-conceived plan, that in reality does not follow the city's own best practice model. This plan does not and will not serve to help end homelessness. Even the proposed Biddle House service providers have made public statements that this plan is not a best practice model. Their public declarations say they would do it differently and they don't know why the City chose Biddle House. Did Paul McKee get them to make those statements?

As far as Paul McKee goes, we want to set the record straight. As we understand it, McKee was the original contact that attracted NGA to St. Louis. If that is not correct, you should inform us differently. Now he is trying to build a grocery store in our community. At the Pruitt-Igoe site, he wants to bring a hospital and other medical services to this underserved neighborhood. You are trying to build a homeless shelter. Quit trying to protect us from Pau McKee. We like his plan better than yours.

In the newspaper today, you say that the City wants to get community input on plans to redevelop this neighborhood. We are turning in more than a thousand signatures, gathered in one day, that say we don't want Biddle House. Are you really listening? If you try and move this problem to our neighborhood to satisfy white downtown interests connected to you and your staff, don't bother seeking our development input for the rest of your term. We only have a few more months to survive your administration. We will wait for the next mayor.

Sincerely,



Cynthia Kendall
Board President

Cc: Lewis Reed
Darlene Green