



September 26, 2024

Mr. Adam Fletcher
Director of Community Development
City of Harrisonburg
409 South Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Dear Mr. Fletcher,

I write to share James Madison University's (JMU) support of the proposed Quarry Heights development project, located on Waterman Drive in the City of Harrisonburg, VA. The creative and intentional repurposing of the Frazier Quarry site will provide much needed residential housing that is aligned with the City of Harrisonburg Comprehensive Plan as well as respond to the needs of the area's major employers.

By increasing the availability of Market Type A housing, the addition of 917 residential units addresses the housing supply challenges identified in the City of Harrisonburg Comprehensive Housing Assessment & Market Study. Availability of such housing resources is important for employers and institutions like JMU when recruiting faculty, administrators, and skilled staff.

In recent years, JMU has lost educated and skilled potential employees who could not accept positions due to an absence of available, high-quality housing in the City of Harrisonburg. The Quarry Heights project will help alleviate similar housing challenges by addressing the housing mismatch prevalent in the city. It also provides multi-generational communities for young professionals, families, empty-nesters and retirees – a spectrum of people represented in the city and on our campus.

Other facets of this project enhance opportunities to secure top talent in our job market. Factors such as convenient access to nearby schools and recreational areas and considerations for traffic and stormwater management infrastructure. The development will also afford new commercial opportunities along the Waterman Drive and West Market Street commercial corridors that support a walkable and bikeable residential community, which are attractive to our prospective employees.

We support the proposed development and the long-term benefits it will bring to the community. Thank you for your consideration of this high-impact project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie King", is written over the typed name and title. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Mr. Charlie King
President

CWK/op

Thanh Dang

From: Marcie Smith <elkrunstablesva@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2024 1:15 PM
To: Thanh Dang
Subject: Notice of public hearing to adjacent property owner

WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.

I am in receipt of your notice regarding the Waterman Drive housing project public hearing. My business is happy hounds doggy daycare at 300 and 220 Waterman Dr.

I went up to the open house that the developers held yesterday at VMRC and it seemed to me that this could be a good thing, particularly if it is a catalyst for the city to solve the flooding problems on Waterman Drive. It could also be a catalyst to solve the problem of the students and other pedestrians walking in heavy traffic with no sidewalks.

My only concern would be the possibility that the city of Harrisonburg goes crazy reassessing my property, and I can longer afford to pay the taxes on it. The taxes are already over \$650/month. This is a lot of money for a tiny business like mine.

I am unable to attend the meeting, but wanted to deliver this feedback.

-Marcella Smith, owner, happy hounds doggie daycare