

City of Harrisonburg Community Development
409 South Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

June 3, 2021

To the Community Development Committee,

I am writing you today on behalf of my husband Steve and I, and our daughter (who have lived at our location for 11-12 years now) and to express our concerns for the development in which you want to allow at 650 and 680 Stone Spring Road in Harrisonburg. We are **"NOT"** in agreement with the idea of adding more multi-family units (especially with 12 or more units in each one) in our neighborhood. The city **"ALREADY"** has an abundance of dwellings like this and you just approved for ones around the Woodland development. **What we lack are single-family homes in the city!!** Just the other day on the radio I heard this again. Listed below are other reasons why this is **"NOT"** necessary!!

Traffic is one reason. Twelve or more units in each of these multi-family units will cause **"A LOT"** more traffic on Stone Spring Road. It is already unbearable to drive in the mornings and evenings getting home, even for two lane traffic on each side!! It will cause the city to add one more stoplight, I am sure, which we already have enough to go through just to get anywhere. There are speeders on this road too, late at night that make it sound like a racetrack is nearby (Add more young/immature people possibly and it will be even worse yet I am sure).

Noise. My in-laws live on King Edwards Way and with the town houses up the road from them they have people speeding through their residential area **"All"** of the time. Not to mention the loud partying that goes on which you can hear from their houses. I understand that is in the county; however, they are so close to the city it affects us too. **No, no, no. Harrisonburg does not need more multi-family developments!!!**

Partying. Also, **no one needs heavy parties near a school or residential area!!** Our family experienced this already when we ourselves lived in a house in the Woodland area. **2:00 in the morning having to call the police department is not fun.** There are already dwellings like these on one side of the school. (Not saying they are parties). **We just don't need anymore!! A quiet nice subdivision is what is needed. Not the possibility of having someone puking in your yard, etc....**

Property Value. The development of these multiple-dwellings will also cause a **decrease in our property value** later as well. It is already struggle now to deal with. **We would be ok with "SINGLE" family homes** being built to keep our neighborhood a quiet and more pleasing environment.

Lights. Also, lights around these buildings are another thing. We realize lighting around these buildings is for their safety, but who wants the glow of the lights shining in their homes when they are trying to sleep at night.

Stone Spring Elementary. The school borders our land (and theirs) and we have noticed and told others of the disrespect that the land & the track area gets there. People are constantly walking their dogs without cleaning up the dog's poop. I know this may not make a difference in whatever gets built, but with less people around there will be less of a chance. **Who wants their child to go to school and step in dog poop?** Stop using it as a dog park!

Overcrowding. **Additionally, you want to overcrowd our schools even more!!!! Come on!!** You haven't finished building the new one yet and it will be overcrowded before it gets done. The big developments like this **"MUST"** and **"HAVE" to STOP.** Stop thinking of revenue. Of course the city needs to make some, **but at what cost.** **It's time to stop and think of the overall benefit to the "people who live here", not how heavy people can make someone's pockets.**

Safety. Has anyone stopped to think of the **"Safety"** of the children and workers of the school. In light of all of the shootings in today's society who's to say some person couldn't get the notion to do something from a building which would have a perfect shot **(Heaven forbid!!!!).** **Did anyone stop to think about that???** **NO,** I am sure not!! As much as we would like to think it couldn't happen here in Harrisonburg, we still need to think of **our children's safety FIRST by thinking ahead and being PROACTIVE!!!!** None of the other schools have high rise apartment complexes around them.

Not everyone wants to live on top or on bottom of one another, even in the city. We like a little space of our own. And the personal satisfaction of owning our own place. Not renting it from someone else. Also keeping our neighborhood aesthetically pleasing in appearance, not looking at great big buildings so close by. We like our quiet neighborhood the way it is. There is several wildlife in this area that will lose their homes as well. There is a red-tailed hawk to name one, while not endangered **yet,** is federally protected and has a home in the trees that would come down. It has been there for years. It would be a shame to see the beauty of the landscape leave our area along with the animals who have lived her for so long.

No, No, No. Harrisonburg City Community Development needs to put its foot down on more multi-family dwellings and concentrate on more single family homes!!! Please consider our request **not** to allow these companies to build these homes, but **instead consider SINGLE FAMILY homes!!!** Keep our community and school away from these conditions or anything worse.

Thank you for your consideration,
The Pittington Family
Steve, Amanda & Natalie