



February 11, 2019

Mayor Steve Schewel and  
Members of the Durham City Council  
101 City Hall Plaza  
Durham, NC 27701

Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of Commissioners and  
Members of the Board  
200 E Main, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Old Courthouse  
Durham, NC 27701

Dear Mayor Schewel, Members of the Durham City Council, Chair Wendy Jacobs and Members  
the of the Durham County Board of Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of The Trinity Park Board of Directors regarding the Expanding Housing Choices proposal. On Sunday, February 3 2019, Patrick Young and Michael Stock gave a presentation to the Trinity Park Neighborhood and we are very appreciative that they were able to give an overview of the initiative, hear neighbor perspectives, and respond to questions.

Many neighbors expressed concern that the name of the initiative "Expanding Housing Choices" and early surveys and communications used careful language that did not make clear the nature of the recommendation. In addition, the information provided does not include research, supporting data or projections to explain why this is the recommendation, or the impact of similar projects in other cities. While we do appreciate the effort to hear from the community, due to the complex nature of this proposal, the two-week period to review the final proposal does not seem sufficient for those who will be impacted to evaluate and respond.

After subsequent conversations with the neighborhood, the board passed a resolution that I want to share with you as well as some of its logic and our concerns. There are Trinity Park-specific concerns as well as a desire to see a specific tie in to true affordable housing or a comprehensive housing strategy that is Durham wide. We are willing to work with any and all groups to make the initiative better. If there is a committee of stakeholders developed, Trinity Park would like the opportunity to participate on this very important zoning change. The resolution is as follows:

1. Resolve to request a 90 day extension between final draft of the proposal and the submission for publication (i.e., **before** the Planning Commission receives it)
2. An Urban Planning Committee subcommittee is formed consisting initially of Trinity Park residents who will draft a survey and advise the board and keep the board apprised of its efforts
3. Work with other neighborhood boards and stakeholders

No one has seen the final draft and once it is finalized and published, it is hard to change. That is why our resolution targets the time before publication and submittal to the Planning Commission for a vote. The Planning Commission and its members could therefore get a jump on their work as well.

Sincerely,  
Diane Amato  
President, TPNA

CC: Members of the Planning Commission  
CC: Planning Department (Patrick Young & Michael Stock)