

Edwards,Michelle

From: Aubree Nasser <aubreenasser@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 2:43 PM
To: Azar, George; Crossen,Martha; Garrison,Neil; Nation,Todd; Elliott,Earl; Loudermilk,Cheryl; Auler,Amy; Boland,Tammy; DeBaun,Curtis; Edwards,Michelle; Felling,Darrell; Bennett,Duke A; richards@wslfirm.com
Subject: *Ext!* Hickory House Rezoning
Attachments: Aubree Nasser City Council Letter.pdf

****External Email - Think Before You Click****

- Helpdesk

Dear Mayor Bennett, Council Members, and Others,

I have attached a PDF document for the City Council Meeting tonight over the Hickory House rezoning.

Thanks,

Aubree Nasser
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Dear Council Members and Interested Parties,

Hello, my name is Aubree Nasser. I am a college student currently attending Indiana State University majoring in Political Science with a Minor in Civic Leadership. I am a Terre Haute native that has lived here for twenty years. Today, I am writing this letter to show my support for the Hickory House Residential Treatment Facility being placed in the Farrington Grove District.

I am currently a resident of the Farrington Grove District. I have lived in an apartment in this area for almost six months and have decided to resign my lease because I love this area. The Farrington Grove District is often referred to as the Art District or the Historic District. I remember when signing the lease for my apartment I had to agree that if they found that my apartment had any historical significance, that I would be forced to leave. There are many unique things that make this area special and adding the Hickory House would be another piece to the puzzle.

You may be wondering why this kind of facility affects me or why it means so much to me that Terre Haute gets one, and it is because I am the daughter of a drug addict. My mother got in with the wrong people and started doing drugs when I was only five years old. My mother time and time again has tried getting over her addiction, but she has never had the help and attention that she needed to help her overcome this struggle. Due to my mother's addiction, she has lost custody of all three of her children, has strained relationships with family, and she keeps going back to the wrong people. My mother's addiction had gotten so bad that she got involved in an abusive relationship with another drug addict who has permanently impaired my mother physically and mentally. My mother will never be able to drive again, have a job again, is now

on disability to cover costs of living and food, and she is barely getting by. And I cannot even tell you how long it has been since I have seen my mother. If my mother would have had the opportunity to go to a residential living facility like Hickory House, she would not be in the position she is in today. I do not want other people to have to go through the same hurt that I have had to go through growing up without my mother present in my life. The Hickory House would give second chances to people wanting to recover from their addiction.

Another point that I would like to bring up is the other things in the Farrington Grove District that people just let slide by with no worry. If people are so worried that bringing a residential treatment facility to the Farrington Grove District is going to devalue the area and homes, I would like to discuss the other things that are already here. In a one-mile radius from where the Hickory House is supposed to be located, there are bars and liquor stores that people are constantly going in and out of. There are college fraternity houses that host loud parties that trash the area and bring in crowds of reckless college students drinking and partying. There are 41 vacant homes, some of which are deserted and condemned. There are 56 registered sex offenders who live as our neighbors. We also cannot forget about the deadly shooting that happened just this past August that killed an ISU student. These are current problems in the Farrington Grove District, but you do not see people complaining about that. The Hickory House should be the least of your worries when all of these other things exist in this area. The Hickory House is going to be a 38-bed facility for women struggling with the addiction of meth, heroine, cocaine, crack, pills, alcohol, and other drugs. This is a 28 day stay treatment program, and the patients are not allowed any visitors during this time. Terre Haute would greatly benefit from having this kind of facility because it is bettering the lives of people in our community.

In closing, I would once again like to state my support of the Hickory House coming to the Farrington Grove District. I strongly ask that you all consider the benefits of this residential treatment facility. I am speaking to you as not only a Farrington Grove resident, but also someone whose life was affected by drugs and addiction. I want you to keep in mind that I have never met anyone in my life who has not been affected by addiction in their lives, may it be personally, a parent, spouse, friend, or another loved one. Your jobs as council members is to have the best interest of the community of Terre Haute in mind, and by supporting this facility, you are supporting the opportunity for people to be able to overcome addiction and live stronger and happier lives. The reason we voted you all into your position is to better the lives of people in our community, and I hope you strongly consider the immense impact that this facility will have on the lives of addicts, family members, and the community of Terre Haute. Thank you for taking the time to read what I have to say, and I hope you all considering passing the Hickory House Rezoning. Have a great rest of your day!

Sincerely,

Aubree Nasser