



1524 W. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton, CA 92833-2728
Tel (714) 447-8855 • Fax (714) 447-9131

aerostamps@aol.com • www.aeromark.net

June 30, 2008

Fullerton City Council and Redevelopment Agency
303 W. Commonwealth Ave.
Fullerton, CA 92832

Mayor / Chair Quirk and City Council / Agency Members:

My name is Paul O'Neil. I am a long time Fullerton resident. I have been in business in west Fullerton for nearly twenty years.

With Amendment One, the Fullerton Redevelopment Agency staff is asking to add a large section of west Fullerton to their purview. I feel this would be unwise and ask that you reject it.

Agency staff have found some examples of blight in west Fullerton as previously reported, but it is so trivial in nature that the definition of blight really has to be stretched to make it fit at all. The same is true of the economic blight. What redevelopment experts call stagnation would be called stability by ordinary folks. It means that the area is well settled enough that many folks have been there a long time and have paid their places off. That is a sign of strength not of blight.

Blight is defined as a physical, social or economic condition that reduces . . . utilization of an area to such an extent that the blighting condition cannot be reversed or alleviated by private enterprise acting alone, by the City acting alone or by both acting together without the assistance of a redevelopment agency.

There is no problem in west Fullerton that rises above the normal irritations of living in a free society with our fellow citizens. We are a normal fully functional middle class American community. There is nothing that significantly reduces the utilization of our homes, businesses or community.

In two community meetings held by Fullerton Redevelopment Agency Staff about their proposal, two Agency representatives under close questioning by the public were unable to provide a single specific example of a problem that needed a redevelopment agency to resolve. The only thing they could come up with was a slum lord who has already been dealt with by existing City authorities.

There is no need at all for any Redevelopment Agency action in west Fullerton.

When I received notice about this proposal in the mail, I was shocked. Why here? Since then, I have talked to hundreds of fellow west Fullerton residents and business folks in the course of my everyday affairs. I have found only a handful that thought the Agencies involvement might possibly be beneficial, everyone else was opposed to having the agency impose themselves on us. NOT ONE SINGLE PERSON THAT I HAVE SPOKEN WITH WAS SUPPORTIVE.

Seeing no support for Agency involvement in my own experience, I contacted Agency staff to see what record of public clamor for action they had. Surely, there must be an extensive stack of letters and emails asking for the Redevelopment Agency to come to the rescue. I was disappointed. There was not one specific request for the Agency to become involved.

Please drive out to west Fullerton yourselves and see with your own eyes. Can you find anything that even remotely would call for the last resort of a redevelopment agency to act? While you are out, stop and ask folks what they think of a plan that would give the Fullerton Redevelopment Agency power to stop planned changes they wish to make to their property, compel changes they do not wish to make and even take their property from them without their consent. I'm betting you will find few takers.

The plan calls for many routine City services to be rolled up with the Redevelopment Agency. Things like street repair, water pipes, sidewalk maintenance, even a new floor for the fire station have all been lumped in. This would make the Redevelopment Agency the primary active agent for the City. Redevelopment agencies were intended to solve specific tough problems as a last recourse. Granting Amendment One would make the Agency the first tier agent rather than one of last resort, a slide down a very dangerous slippery slope.

I ask you to turn down Amendment One.

Please Remove My Property From the Project

If you decide to approve Amendment One, please remove my property from the project. I am unalterably opposed to participation. My property is well maintained and there has never been any complaint against it.

Redevelopment Agency Executive Director Robert Zur Schmiede and Project Manager Charles Kovac courteously met with me and listened to some of my concerns. At my request, they agreed to remove my property from Amendment One and any other Redevelopment Agency plans. A copy of this letter is attached.

Paul O'Neil

Paul O'Neil
AEROMARK
1524 W. Commonwealth Ave.
Fullerton, CA 92833-2728
(714) 447-8855
www.aeromark.net





FULLERTON REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

303 W. Commonwealth Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92832-1775

Website: www.ci.fullerton.ca.us

Telephone • (714) 738-6877

Fax • (714) 738-6843

June 24, 2008

Mr. Paul O'Neil
1524 W. Commonwealth Avenue
Fullerton, CA 92833

RE: Request for Removal of 1524 W. Commonwealth Avenue from the proposed Amendment to the Merged Fullerton Redevelopment Project Area

Dear Mr. O'Neil:

As requested in your letter dated June 20, 2008, we have reviewed your request to delete your property located at 1524 W. Commonwealth Avenue ("Property") from the proposed Amendment to the Merged Fullerton Redevelopment Project Area ("Amendment" or "Amendment Area"). We are in the process of acting upon your request.

The decision to recommend deletion of your Property from the Amendment Area is based upon several factors including:

1. Location of the Property on the outer boundary of Sub-area 2.
2. Inclusion of the Property is not necessary to achieve redevelopment objectives in the proposed Amendment Area.
3. Your request for removal.

The action to officially delete the Property must be considered and recommended by the Planning Commission of the City of Fullerton. Subsequent to the Planning Commission action, the Redevelopment Agency Board of Directors must approve removal of the Property from the Amendment Area. Once the Agency Board approves removal of the Property, Agency staff will provide you written confirmation and evidence that deletion of the Property from the proposed Amendment Area has been completed.

I hope this letter satisfies your current needs. Thank you for taking an interest in the proposed Amendment. If you should have any further questions regarding the proposed Amendment as it relates to your property, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Charles Kovac, Redevelopment Project Manager, at (714) 738-2858.

Sincerely,
FULLERTON REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert M. Zur Schmiede".

Robert M. Zur Schmiede, AICP
Executive Director

Cc: Charles G. Kovac, Project Manager
Ernie Glover, Urban Futures Inc. / GRC Redevelopment

