

July 3, 2023

Janis Powers, Ward 2 Planning Commission
425 West Main Street
Oklahoma City, OK. 73102

Hello Commissioner Powers,

I understand that as the Ward 2 zoning commissioner and Vice Chair, you are the person I need to contact about the proposed apartment building development on the corner of NW 43rd and N Francis.

In December of 2022, I purchased my first home at 606 NW 45th street. I like this neighborhood because it's centrally located, quiet, friendly, and affordable. And because it's an older neighborhood, the houses aren't crammed together and there are lots of big trees. It's very walkable, and I feel safe walking by myself.

I think placing two apartment buildings on that small corner lot are the definition of being crammed together. The tall trees there would be lost and there wouldn't be room for a lawn or other green space to soften the appearance of the building make it feel more residential and welcoming.

The people who have made their homes near this proposed development would be forced to look at commercial buildings versus a traditional style home or homes. On my street, there's a vacant lot that's owned by Westminster Church. I would be very unhappy if that ended up being the site of an apartment building, but once a precedent is set to allow apartments in our neighborhood, it's entirely possible that this could happen.

Perhaps the developers could be encouraged to find a more appropriate area to building apartment buildings, like the Paseo area, where there are apartment buildings are common?

I appreciate the important role you play in our city government. Thank you for reading my concerns and strongly considering my request for you to vote No on this project.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Michele Morken". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michele Morken
310-871-7783