

Via Electronic Delivery

April 6, 2025

Council Member Marc Duchen – District 10

Re: Request to Postpone Agenda Item 62

Dear Council Member Duchen,

On behalf of the Acacia Cliffs Tenants Association (Association), we respectfully request a **minimum one-month postponement of Agenda Item 62– the proposed rezoning of the Acacia Cliffs property, scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2025**. This postponement would allow the opportunity for residents of Acacia Cliff Apartments to seek a fair solution and negotiate in good faith with Armbrust & Brown, the developer’s representative.

As you may be aware, we are an extremely diverse community of parents, seniors, veterans, immigrants, and service industry workers. If the proposed rezoning moves forward, the result would be a loss of over 200 affordable units— putting your constituents at risk of displacement. We rely on the Acacia Cliffs Apartments as one of the last remaining truly affordable housing options in this area of Austin. Even with the requirements of DB-90, the “affordable” units proposed by the developer do not nearly reflect our current rental rates or quantity. Additionally, this would mean stripping many vital aspects of our livelihood by losing walkable access to schools and reasonable commutes to our workplaces and grocery stores.

Many residents have only recently become aware of this proposed development and have not had adequate time to meet with you, the developer’s representatives, nor participate in the City Council meetings. Our housing is at risk, and those directly impacted by this agenda item deserve to be actively involved in the decision-making. As an Austin native who recently moved into Acacia Cliffs, I’ve seen the experience of searching for centrally-located, affordable housing become increasingly exhausting as the City of Austin takes on more and more costly developments. In my professional experience as a Relocation Specialist, displacing people from their homes is one of the most stressful life events for families and their communities. Unless something creative is done, some will experience homelessness from the loss of this affordability, which is a trend I’m certain you are as tired of seeing repeat itself as we are.

We want to emphasize that we are deeply concerned about the plans to demolish our place of residence and the risk of being uprooted. We are committed to working together to preserve affordable housing and prevent the displacement of hundreds within our community. Now, we hope that you will stand by your commitment to your constituents and support our request for a postponement. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you,

Vianey Camorlinga & Harrison Hall

Tenant Representatives

Acacia Cliffs Tenants Association

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CC:

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