

Jim Furcini Residence

Dear Sirs and Madams,

My wife and I and our family are your neighbors and live (3) houses to your east at 5353 E. Mariposa St. We have lived here for over (20) years and love our community and all that it offers. Along with that we especially enjoy and appreciate Camelback Church of Christ presence as a stabilizing element and as a institution that serves as a beacon to all that reside here. As with the few other houses of God in our neighborhood regardless of denomination, your presence serves to reinforce the alignment of beliefs in and around the community and for that we are thankful.

I am writing today to beg for your understanding in what is being proposed by the development group headed by Mr. Rawlins at the former residence of David and Gladys Wright. I am very aware of all the actions and intentions with regard to what Mr. Rawlins and his group are planning. I have met with the Church Elders along with Ms. Jordan Rose. I have met with both the Mayor and Councilman DiCiccio both privately and publicly. I am the Sperling Family builder and constructed his home immediately to your south. While Mr. Sperling is out of town he has asked that I assist him by keeping abreast of all that is planned and to be his eyes and ears with regards to the travesty that is planned next door.

As such I am acutely aware of what is at risk by allowing what may be a well intentioned act of historical preservation to come to fruition. The fact of the matter is that Mr. Rawlins and company is intending to commercialize the former home of the Wrights under the soiled veil of historical preservation. If Mr. Rawlins with his thus far \$10,000,000 investment had truly just loved the architecture and the legacy that the home presented, why...

Why wouldn't he just have been happy to buy the property, build a large home and preserve the original structure as a guest home or private museum? He could have within reason shown it to whom ever and when ever he wanted to. Instead Mr. Rawlins is attempting to create a Frank Lloyd Wright theme park complete with entertainment, food, drink, alcohol, regular hours of operation, ancillary buildings and has hopes of attracting over 100,000 people or more a year to come through the site.

I understand from my discussion with the Church Elders that early on Mr. Gammage negotiated an agreement with the Church for parking and shuttle service. And now that Mr. Gammage has moved on, Mr. Paul Gilbert is seeking to expand the original agreement to accommodate Mr. Rawlins aggrandized plans. The very existence of an agreement with the Church to allow parking and shuttle service is THE catalyst that is allowing for the possible commercialization of the former Wright Residence. I understand to some measure

the Church is deferring to the City of Phoenix guidance with regard to commercialization through historic designation but I beg you to re-think that position. The City leaders come and go and do things sometime for the wrong reason. They also sometimes do things that are rewarding only in the short term which I am convinced is the current situation. Mayors who aspire to become Governors appreciate a strong legacy. Historic preservation does look good on ones resume and is on the surface hard to argue with.

Once the cork is out of the bottle on this it will be difficult if not impossible to undo the damage. My biggest concern is the spectrum of unexpected consequences. Opening this property and yours to 100,000-200,000 visitors per year even less, will be devastating to the fabric of our neighborhood, and could deteriorate the strong but quiet worship environment that I know takes place within your house and grounds. Please, please consider not assisting in this terrible and truly unnecessary leveraging of Arcadia's and Camelback Church of Christ's good name, great location and all the many fruits born out of an 80 plus year community history of family value preservation. Please just tell Mr. Rawlins that it may be the Wright House but its the wrong location for what he wants to do. There is no modicum good that can outweigh damage that will come from this venue.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my words,

Jim Furcini