

Find A Way for Affordable Housing in New Brookhill - an open letter to Charlotte City Council and Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

October TBD, 2020

As leaders of our community's housing, religious, social services, equity and justice organizations, we add our voices to many others who believe that #BrookhillMatters. Our organizations and agencies work together with the families of Brookhill Village not just to meet today's basic needs, but to build tomorrows worthy of their hard work, perseverance and dreams.

We can not stand by while the New Brookhill proposal, the last opportunity to ensure affordable housing in Brookhill's future, is lost. Therefore, we have a simple message to our elected leaders on Charlotte City Council, LISC and other public and private leaders in the Queen City: Find a way.

Find a way to close the \$13 million gap between private and public funding that offers the only chance for historic Brookhill to be renewed and still include 162 safe, clean and affordable apartment homes. In a prosperous community, this is a small investment with returns measured in people's futures.

Find a way to avoid displacing 279 people, including 86 children, who live in Brookhill today and value having loved ones, friends, neighbors, and houses of faith close by in a close-knit community.

Find a way to save one of two sites left in SouthEnd that offers the hope of affordable housing in this area and that can guarantee close access to jobs, transportation, health care and other services to people in our community who need these supports most.

Find a way to protect the health and well-being of Brookhill families with stable, clean and safe housing during this pandemic crisis.

Find a way to honor the legacy of Brookhill as a promised home for working families over generations by keeping this promise alive for decades ahead.

We are in an historic moment that matters because #BrookhillMatters. We stand with you to help capture this moment, but we stand apart from any decision that ends in displacement, disruption and disappointment for the families of Brookhill who depend on and deserve affordable housing.

If our City Council, government staff, and other leaders need inspiration in this moment, we say look no further than the people of Brookhill. We know you can follow their example because Brookhill families find a way to overcome challenges, overcome obstacles, and move forward together every day.

We urge you to find a way forward for New Brookhill and show that #BrookhillMatters.

Signed,

Rev.	Megan	Argabrite	Amity Presbyterian Church	Pastor
Rev.	Nathan	Arledge	Myers Park UMC	Pastor of Missions and Community Engagement
	Linda	Ashendorf		

Rev.	Cade	Barefoot	Dilworth UMC	Associate Pastor
	Miriam	Bell	Charlotte Area Local APWU	President
	Justin	Bouldin	Reconcile Church	Pastor
Rev.	Joshua	Bowron	St. Martin's Episcopal Church	Rector
Rev.	Greg	Brown	Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, Charlotte	Rector
	Gene	Buccelli		
	Alison	Busch		
	Nicole	Campbell		
	Mandy	Chandler		
Rev.	Michelle	Chappell	Dilworth UMC	Senior Pastor
	Liz	Clasen-Kelly		
Ms.	Traci	Crenshaw	Historic Camp Greene Neighborhood Association	Treasurer
Mrs.	Dora	Dalmas		
	Deb	Disney	South Tryon Community Development Corporation	Secretary
Rev. Dr.	Jan	Edmiston	The Presbytery of Charlotte, Presbyterian Church USA	General Presbyter
Pastor	Sanchez	Fair	Stable Hand It Ends Now Multiply Church	Owner, Vice President, and Pastor
	Sebastian	Feculak	Charlotte Worker Assembly	Steering Committee
	Angie	Forde	OneMECK Housing Committee	Leadership Team
	Janet	Ganoung	Carolina Jews for Justice - Greater Charlotte	Founding member
Pastor	Geoffrey	Gibbs Jr.	Encounter Church	Lead Pastor
Ms	Roberta	Givens	United Steel Workers	President
	Blair	Gore	Watershed Church	Children's Pastor
	Melody	Gross	Courageous SHIFT	Founder & CEO
	Somer	Hammack	South Tryon CDC	Treasurer
Mrs	Carol	Hatcher		
	Ashley	Hawkins	Southern Piedmont Central Labor Council	Vice President
Rev. Dr.	Susan	Heafner-Heun	The Vine UMC Plaza Midwood	Pastor
Mr.	Juan	Hernandez	Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy	Staff Attorney
	Corey	Hill	UAW	President
	Richard	Hill	USW 1159L	President
Dr.	Scott	Hofert	Watershed	Co-Pastor
	Taryn	Hofert	Watershed	Pastor

	Roma	Johnson		
The Rev.	Sally	Johnston	St Peter's Episcopal Church	Assisting Priest
	Jean	Jones		
	Anita	King		
Mrs.	Deana	King		
			St Stephen United Methodist Church	
Rev	Melissa	Lamm		Minister to Children and Families
Mrs.	Linda	Linfors		
	George	Linfors		
The Rev.	Kevin	Lloyd	Saint Alban's Episcopal Church	Associate Rector
	Chris	Lown	Charlotte Metro Democratic Socialists of America	Co-Chair
	Cedric	Lundy	Urban Promise Charlotte	StreetLeader Director of West Site
Mrs.	Linda	Mattix		
	Kelly	McKinnon		
Rev	Ray	McKinnon	South Tryon CDC	President
	Marc	McQuillen	United Auto Workers	Local President
	Trent	Merchant	Leadership Talent Advisors	President
	Nada	Merghani	Feed the Movement CLT	Founder
CEO	Angel	Miller	Funnel to Heaven	CEO
Mrs.	Patricia	Moore	Not One More	Co-Chair
	Jessica Maria	Moreno	Action NC -TORC	Housing Justice Organizer
	Lynda	Morris		
	Beth	Morrison	Rebuilding Together of Greater Charlotte	Executive Director
Mr.	Tom	Murdock		
	Tim	Nicodemus	Charlotte Justice Conference	Founder
Dr	Michael	Norman	Carolina Jews for Justice	Member, Charlotte Chapter
Mr.	Howard	Nussman		
	Keyona	Osborne	It Ends Now Charlotte	President
			Charlotte-Mecklenburg Food Policy Council	
Dr.	Nicole	Peterson		Board Vice Chair
	Stacy	Phillips	Connect Meck with Kindness	Founder
The Rev.	Jacob	Pierce	St. Peter's Episcopal Church	Rector
	Cameron	Pruette	LGBTQ Democrats of Mecklenburg County	President
Honorable	Kristie	Puckett Williams	All of Us or None	Chapter Leader
	Sue	Rankin-White	Unity in Community North Mecklenburg, Inc.	Secretary/Treasurer

	Sandra	Reid	Bradley-Reid Cares	Owner
Rev.	Emily	Rivers	Harrison Church	Youth Pastor
Pastor	David	Roberts	Watershed	Pastor
	Julia	Sain	Disability Rights & Resources	Executive Director
The Rev.	Robin O.	Sands	St. Peter's Episcopal Church	Dcn, Clergy
	Becky and Tony	Santoro	Enderly Coffee Co.	Owners
	Andy	Schmitz		Neighbor
Rev.	Andrew	Shipley	Missiongathering Christian Church	Lead Pastor
	Kirsten	Sikkelee	YWCA Central Carolinas	Chief Executive Officer
	McKenna	Smith		
	Beverly	Smith		
	Ted	Smith		
	Gaye	Smith		
The Rev.	Brad	Smith, PhD	St. John's Episcopal Church	Priest-staff
	Walker	Spruill	Life	CEMFO
		Steering Committee	Carolina Jews for Justice	Governing Board
Rev.	Amanda	Stephenson	St. Peter's Episcopal Church	Associate Rector
	Jessica	Thomas	Charlotte for Choice	Board Member
	Scott	Thrower	IBEW LU 379	Business Manager
	Vickie	Traynum	St. Martin's Episcopal Church	Director of Communications
	Darrell	Turlington	UAW	CHAIRMAN
	Frederick	Vance	NALC	President
	Jennifer	Vollmer	Community Justice Center	Volunteer
	William	Voltz	Unitehere	Charlotte Chapter President
	Allison	Wadsworth		
	Katherine	Weidner	Black & Veatch	Senior Infrastructure Planning Engineer
	Debbie	Williams	Brookhill Community Resource Center	Executive Director
	Leon	Williams	Beloved Community Church	Pastor
Rev	Precieuse	Wilson	Hickory Grove UMC	Associate Pastor
Rev.	Nina	Wynn	United Methodist Church	Ordained Elder
The Rev. Deacon	Rebecca	Yarbrough	The Chapel of Christ the King	Deacon
	Lisa	Yarrow	Lisa Yarrow Interior Painting	Lisa Yarrow Interior Painting