

LETTER IN OPPOSITION TO BOARD BILL 64 AND THE VACATION OF 17TH STREET BETWEEN WASHINGTON AVENUE AND ST. CHARLES STREET

As developers, business owners, and condominium owner associations in the Downtown West neighborhood of the City of St. Louis and in close proximity to the section of 17th Street which Board Bill 64 proposes to close, we sign this letter as evidence of our opposition to the closure of 17th Street. We oppose the closure for the following reasons:

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11. Closing 17th Street will prevent integration of the Monogram Building development with the surrounding neighborhood and will disrupt an already vibrant neighborhood.
12. Lastly, we believe the City of St. Louis should not offer portions of City streets as development incentives.

Laura Sumner

Signature

Name

Terra Co. President

Building Business


Title

June 11, 2016

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Signature

Adam Frager
Name

Blood + Sand
Building

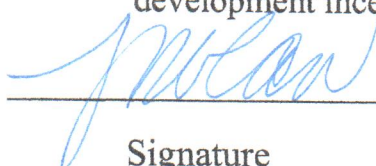
owner
Title

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	JADienne Nolan	Leather Trades CM	Agent for Owner
Signature	Name	Building/Business	Title

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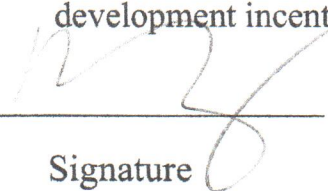
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Signature

Name

Building/Business

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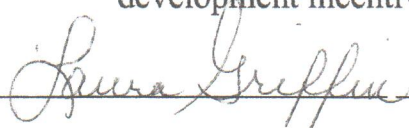
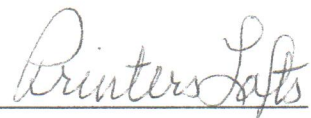
 Ken Jarvis Stealth Creative Contractor

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 LAURA GRIFFIN  HOA President

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 David Belster *Kalenya-christel inc. President*

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Mandy D. Walker Mandy Ellis-Walker Redenyer Christie, Inc.
Signature Name Building/Business Title

St. Louis City Board of Aldermen

1200 Market St. City Hall, Room 230

St. Louis, Missouri 63103

June 14, 2016

Dear Alderpersons,

The Downtown Disability Action Network, a chapter of The Coalition for Truth in Independence (CTI), is opposed to Board Bill 64. Our membership is active in the downtown community. We frequent coffee shops on Washington Avenue, buy gifts from MacroSun, shop at Culinaria, and use the library on Locust. We meet at 1600 Pine Street, Apartment 901, and Board Bill 64 will impede our ability to live and contribute to our neighborhood, as well as play an active role in the everyday happenings of our community. We cannot be active citizens if we cannot access our sidewalks.

To illustrate this point, the Downtown Disability Action Network is eight members strong; at least five of those members use some sort of mobility device. Whether a wheelchair, a large scooter, or a vision cane, even the smallest interruption or abnormality on our path of travel can cause an enormous difficulty. Let me note that all members of this chapter of CTI call this neighborhood our home. Although we do not speak for all people with disabilities, we do implore the Board of Aldermen to look more deeply at the negative effect that Board Bill 64 will have.

The closing of 17th St. between St. Charles and Washington Ave. has the potential to increase the burden of finding a quick, accessible route between many of our homes to the major business district downtown, causing our members and other folks to have less access to the community. As a result of the accessible housing stock downtown, there are many people who use mobility devices who choose to live in this area, especially just south of where the proposed street closure is. Brief outlines of specific concerns are as follows;

- Spotty accessibility along 18th St., specifically at St. Charles and Locust. This is important because this will be one of two options pedestrians will have if Board Bill 64 was to go into effect.
- At 18th and St. Charles, there are two curb cuts, but only on one side of the street.
- At 18th and Locust, there are two curb cuts but they are diagonal across the intersection.
- Spotty accessibility along 16th St., specifically between St. Charles and Locust and at the intersection of St. Charles and 16th. This is important because this will be one of two options pedestrians will have if Board Bill 64 was to go into effect.
- In between St. Charles and Locust, there is a section of sidewalk that often will have cars parked over the sidewalk blocking access along that route.
- At St. Charles and 16th, there is only one sidewalk that is accessible. That sidewalk is often blocked by cars parked in the parking lot.

Thank you for hearing from a group of people who are proud to call the downtown neighborhood our home. We meet weekly on Thursday nights at 7:00 PM at 1600 Pine Street Apartment 901, where we discuss issues and plan actions. You are welcome to join us.

Sincerely,

Chris Worth

Core Member of the Downtown Disability Action Network (DDAN)

Paraquad
5240 Oakland Ave
St. Louis, Missouri 63110

Board of Aldermen
1200 Market, City Hall, Room 230
St. Louis, Missouri 63103

June 9, 2016

Dear Alderperson,

Paraquad is opposed to Board Bill 64 because of its unnecessary burden to pedestrian travelers using mobility devices in downtown. St. Louis, like many cities developed largely before the signing of the ADA, has many barriers to accessibility, incomplete pedestrian infrastructure being one of the primary barriers faced by people with disabilities every day in their communities. The closing of 17th St. between St. Charles and Washington Ave. has the potential to increase the burden of finding a quick accessible route between many people's homes to the major business district downtown causing folks with disabilities to have less access to the community. There are many people who use mobility devices downtown because of the accessible housing stock, especially just south of where the proposed street closure is. Additionally, there should be special concern given to mobility devices such as crutches or walkers that require extra exertion of energy and the effects that a longer route may have on their access. Brief outlines of specific concerns are as follows:

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Thank you for hearing us,

Cathy Brown
Director- Public Policy and Advocacy
314-289-4251
cbrown@paraquad.org

Rodemyer Christel, Inc.

REAL ESTATE • SALES

PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

3630 GRANDEL SQUARE
ST. LOUIS, MO 63108
(314) 454-0800
(314) 454-1556 FAX



June 15, 2016

Dear St. Louis City Board of Aldermen,

I am writing to address Bill 64 on behalf of the Printers Lofts Condominium Association located at 1611-1627 Locust Street. Rodemyer Christel, Inc. is the property management company for the Printers Lofts and many other residential buildings in this area. The residents of Printers Lofts have voiced numerous concerns regarding Bill 64 such as:

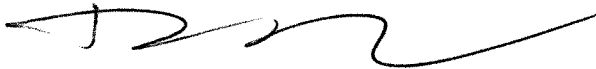
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- Closing 17th Street will reduce the accessibility of the neighborhoods for the elderly, the disabled, and those with children in strollers.

We concur with the thoughts of our residents regarding the closure of 17th Street between Washington Ave. and St. Charles St. and we urge you to vote no on this bill. We feel the closure

would be a detriment to the area not only for our residents but also for other residents and businesses in the area. The City of St. Louis has worked so hard in recent years to promote downtown living and foster a sense of community. The proposed bill would negate the actions that the City has worked to promote for all the residents and businesses that would be affected by the closure of 17th Street.

Your consideration in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Belsky', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

David Belsky, President
Rodemyer Christel, Inc.