

From: Laura Lentz <lp Lentz3@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 01, 2022 11:33 PM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: Public Hearing on The George

I recently learned about the developer's request to transform the retail space of The George to additional apartments. I understand there is a public hearing on Wednesday but unfortunately I am unable to attend due to a previous commitment, and am hoping that providing my comments/concerns via email is sufficient.

As a homeowner located a half mile from The George, I was excited about the potential retail options with walking distance of my home that The George would provide. But month after month, year after year, the space has remained empty. I've heard the rates they were asking were higher than the market rate, and although I don't have any details on this, it makes me wonder if the developer/owner of the property has made proactive effort to fill the retail space, or did they make proactive efforts to keep out retailers with the plan of converting to additional housing?

I hope the committee will be able to research and understand the developer's efforts before making a decision. Some information that I think would be helpful to know:

- What rates were they asking for the retail space (and how does it compare to the market rate)?
- How many applications did they receive for the retail space?
- Why were no applicants approved?
- What efforts were made to lease out the retail space?

A large part of the building being approved was gaining support from the surrounding community, and the community was excited about adding more walkability to their neighborhood. Before taking that option away I hope the committee is performing a full review the developers promise to provide retail and the reasons they're not able to keep that commitment.

Thank you for you efforts and for taking my concerns into consideration.

Sincerely,

Laura Lentz

Sent from my iPhone