

One N.W. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Civic Center Room # 305 Evansville, Indiana 47708

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CHERYL MUSGRAVE, PRESIDENT JUSTIN ELPERS, VICE PRESIDENT BEN SHOULDERS, MEMBER

January 23, 2024

Mayor Stephanie Terry 1 N.W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Civic Center Complex, Room 302 Evansville, Indiana 47708

RE:

Vanderburgh County Area Plan Commission

Our Client No. 2019.004

Dear Mayor Terry:

After careful deliberation, thorough review, and discussion, the Board of Commissioners of Vanderburgh County has made the decision to pursue new leadership for the Area Plan Commission. We believe that this change is in the best interest of our community.

In recent years, it has become evident that the current Executive Director, Mr. Ron London, and legal counsel, Mr. Direk Stahl, have pursued legislative objectives that conflict with those of elected officials and policymakers. This misalignment has resulted in repeated disregard for state laws and a subversion of legislative intent to the detriment of the public. We believe that Mr. London has repeatedly exceeded the scope of his duties as Executive Director and promoted a personal agenda in conflict with the needs of the community.

Mr. London and Mr. Stahl have shown a lack of consideration for the financial burden imposed by existing and proposed regulations. This approach has led to a lack of urgency in completing regulatory processes and increased regulatory enforcement and review resulting in additional costs for property owners and the community at large.

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Additionally, the promotion of regulations that infringe upon property rights without providing compensation to property owners has been a matter of concern. A recent example of this is the Airport Overlay Zone.

The failure to pursue policies that support housing availability across all economic levels has led to increased housing costs and hindered housing development.

The cumulative effect of these actions has had a detrimental impact on the public and has hindered growth.

It is our sincere hope that the City and County can work together to identify new leadership and legal counsel for the Area Plan Commission that align with our shared goals and vision for the future.

Respectfully,

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF VANDERBURGH COUNTY, INDIANA

Cheryl Musgrave, President

Justin Elpers, Vice President

Ben Shoulders, Member

cc: Members of Vanderburgh County Council Members of Area Plan Commission

Members of the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana