

### 1-L-07-RZ

Dear Commissioner,

I am 2 36 year resident of the Topside Community and writing to object to 2 change to the zoning of the former Akers property on Topside Road.

I and meet of my neighbors, bought property here because of the low-density housing which Estate Zoning calls for. A nonresident property owner is Jaking you to dispose the entire abovances
of our area for profit and to the detrinent of 100 resident
families. This is undust and should not be allowed. After all
what is the purpose of zoning if it can be chansed on request:
If MPC recommends a charge do high density housing it
should also recommend a reduction in our property taxes for the
Value of our property will surely fall.

Snewely Stack Wattery

Date: January 29, 2007



Attention: MPC and County Commission-Members

Regarding: MPC File Number 1-L-07-RZ (Camdun Realty I)

To Whom It May Concern:

We are <u>AGAINST</u> the proposed rezoning on East Topside Road (former Akers' Estate). This proposed rezoning project is MPC File Number 1-L-07-RZ (Caradua Realty I)—to change from Estate Zoning to Planned Residential. The proposed use is attached residential (condominiums) for up to 5 dwelling units per acre. This property is 30+ acres: Rezoning could result in 150 condos added to East Topside.

Topside Road is too narrow and too dangerous to accommodate the increase in traffic the rezoning project would create. Accessing Alcoa Highway (AKA: I'll Kill Ya Highway) from Topside Road is a "risky" endeavor at best because of the high volume of traffic on Alcoa Highway as well as the speed of said traffic. Increasing the numbers of people trying to utilize Alcoa Highway to and from Topside Road will only succeed in making a significant problem much worse.

It is totally inappropriate and irresponsible to allow this rezoning project to pass before securing the infrastructure that would accommodate such increases in population and traffic. This rezoning would have such a huge negative impact on the community. The safety of our children and our families would be placed in jeopardy and the quality of life of those of us living in the existing community would be threatened.

While we are do not oppose free enterprise, we are against such enterprises like MPC File Number 1-L-RZ Camdun Realty I that jeopardizes the health, security and sanctity of our community. Please do not pass this rezoning project (1-L-07-RZ Camdun Realty I) It would be an injustice and travesty to place at risk and grave expense the quality of lives of those of us who love to live in the Topside community and who want to maintain the community's integrity.

add Dyes Mc Lean

Sincerely,

Steven Alan MoLees and Rachelle Dyess McLees

Homeowners

Topside Hills Subdivision

Address: 6964 Riverwood Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37920

Telephone: 865-609-9772



January 29, 2007

To:

Susan Brown, Art Clancy, III, Herbert L. Donaldson, Sr., Richard Graf, Kimberly K. Henry, Chester Kilgore, Jack Sharp, Robert Anders, Trey Benefield, Ray Evans, Stan Johnson, Robert M. Lobetti, Rebecca Longmire, c. Rosdy Massey, Mary Plarker Slack Lavry Clark, Paul Philiston Mark, Donald Sun

### MPC Commissioners:

We bought in Topside about 18 months ago because we value the privacy, the wildlife, and the peacefulness of the neighborhood. We spent years looking for the perfect place to have it all -waterfront, acreage, and a great neighborhood - and we both fell in love with this historic community.

Right away, however, we noticed how incredibly tricky it is to turn left from Alcoa Highway onto Topside. The traffic is moving much faster than the speed limit and we have personally witnessed collisions right in front of us. Why not put in a stop light? Once on Topside, the road becomes narrow, curvy and quite dangerous especially when passing another vehicle. Large dump trucks and "lost" 18-wheelers (occasionally in the neighborhood) make passing nearly impossible without going off the edge of the road and into a neighbor's yard. So when we learned of a developer's plan to petition to change our zoning to accommodate more dwellings per acre than our estate zoning allows, we felt compelled to challenge it not only because it would change the character of our neighborhood but we simply can't handle any more traffic

We believe the developer can still maximize profits with our current estate zoning by creating a very upscale, "grand mansion" style waterfront development similar to Mallard Bay. The current infrastructure could handle the dozen or so homes that the 30 acre development would allow much better than a more dense zoning could and the property tax revenue would be significant as well.

Although our property is located on the west side, changing the zoning for the entire Topside Community would definitely affect the future of our neighborhood negatively too. Currently, there is a vacant parcel adjacent to our property for sale being advertised as "multi-family" zoning even though the current zoning is estate. Granting the rezoning would give the buyer of that parcel the ability to develop perhaps as many as 15 dwellings!

Topside Community, especially the west side, has an identity of a small, historic community characterized by park-like open space with an abundance of wildlife - deer, fox, owls - which will be destroyed by changing the zoning. Knoxville needs Topside Community just like it is - there are plenty of other developments with high density zoning. Where will people choose to live who want what Topside Community represents if you allow it to change?

At your next meeting on February 8th, please do not allow our zoning to be changed

Sincerely,

Bill : arla Bunk

Bill and Arla Bunker 4416 Topside Road Knoxville, TN 37920 865-300-1982

Reference: 1-L-07-RZ (Camdun Realty One)

### January 27, 2007

Mark Donaldson
MPC Executive Director
Suite 403, City/County Building
400 Main Street
Knoxville. Tennessee 37902

RE: MPC - Camdun Realty, I MPC File # 1-L-07-RZ

Dear Mark:

The above referenced file comes before MPC on February 8, 2007 requesting a rezoning of a parcel of property in my community which has historically and is currently zoned as Estate Zoning.

I am a long time resident of this community, Topside Community, which I am sure you are familiar with. We value our community and work hard to maintain its character and quality of life for our residents. Knoxville/Knox County has long emphasized the need for healthy communities. Granting this rezoning request from Low Density to High Density development will destroy our healthy community. Topside Road/Alcoa Highway does not have the infrastructure in place to accommodate the increased volume of traffic.

Mike Campbell's purchase of the property was with full knowledge of its zoning status as Estate Zoned. He should not be allowed to come into our community or any community and change the zoning to suit his personal planning requirements.

I urge you to deny this Rezoning Request in MPC#1-L-07-RZ!

Best regard:

A. Wayne Baker

Jan, 27, 2007

JAN 3 0 2007

Dear Mr Mark Donaldson, MPC Executive Director,

I am writing to you to express my concern relative to a proposed rezoning request from the current estate zoning (1 unit/2 acres) to planned residential (up to 5 units/acre) for a 30 acre property located on E. Topside road (MPC file # 1-L-07-RZ). This property is within a community called Topside which is all estate zoning. The requested rezoning would allow for up to 150 units on a single property within a community in which residents have purchased homes, often in large part, because of the estate zoning requirement and resulting spacious settings. Knowing that the property was zoned estate when it was purchased at auction, it seems completely unreasonable to me for the developer to request such a radical change in the makeup of a neighborhood. I would be even more disappointed if the MPC should approve such a request.

Although the desire to retain the spacious and wooded nature of the Topside community is important to me, a serious concern for everyone is traffic safety The intersection of Topside Rd and Alcoa Hwy, even with the recent improvements is an extremely difficult left turn, either onto or off of Alcoa Hwy, during the heavy rush-hour traffic. Addition of 150 units would more than double the number of residents in this entire community and therefore increase the traffic dramatically If a bridge is built at some time in the future providing access to and from Alcoa Hwy via ramps, considration of changing the zoning micht be appropriate at that time. However, as I am sure you are aware, such long-range plans are often not fulfilled, or only after years of delay. In my opinion, allowing overdevelopment of a community prior to completion of sufficient infrastructure would be a huge judgement error with irrevocable consequences As an alternative in contrast and in the same area of Knoxville, there is much land along John Sevier Hwy which has the appropriate infrastructure (roads) for higher density development. John Sevier Hwy is a much wider road without sharp turns and has good ramp access onto adjoining highways (Alcoa Hwy, Chapman Hwy, Strawberry Plains, and I-40) for smooth access through Knox County.

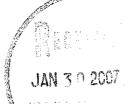
It is my understanding that the MPC is not only concerned with the development of land but also with the development and preservation of communities. I urge you to represent the residents of the Topside community and oppose this request to increase the allowable housing density by 10 fold (from 1 unit/2 acres to 5 units/1 acre).

Keith Robinson, Ph D

4218 Beechwood Dr.

Knoxville, TN 37920

Jan 29, 2007



Dear Mr Mark Donaldson,

The MPC is being asked to approve a request to rezone a 30-acre residential property on E Topside Road ((MPC file # 1-L-07-RZ). I am writing to express my concern relative to this request. This property is within a community called Topside, which is all estate zoning. The property was zoned estate when it was purchased at auction by the developer currently making the request. Medium sized houses with lots that allow for open spaces, natural spaces, characterize the neighborhood and amenable to birds and wildlife, which is the reason we live there.

Rezoning as requested would allow for up to 150 units on a single property. This is within a community in which residents have purchased homes in part because of the estate zoning requirement, and woodland settings. The addition of 150 units would more than double the number of residents in this entire community.

Traffic patterns and safety issues are additional serious concerns of this community. The

roads in this neighborhood are narrow Luckily there is currently not a lot of traffic, and existing traffic drives slowly and carefully. The intersection of Topside Road and Alcoa Highway, even with the recent improvements, is an extremely difficult left turn, either on to or off of Alcoa Highway. This is especially true during the heavy rush-hour traffic

Allowing developers to buy property with plans to develop them in defiance of local zoning regulations makes a mockery of having zoning laws. A decision to change zoning laws, and therefore the quality of life in the community, traffic patterns and safety, without considering the opinions and welfare of this existing community would be a mistake. Further, making those changes without the development of appropriate infrastructure are decisions based on financial motives, and not in the interest of the people of Knoxville or of individual communities. I imagine that resultant safety problems such as traffic accidents will be a matter of legal issue when such development impacts the health and lives of residents in communities affected by rezoning.

It is my understanding that the MPC is concerned with the development and preservation of communities. I urge you to represent the residents of the Topside community and oppose this request to increase the allowable housing density by 10 fold (from 1 unit/2 acres to 5 units/1 acre). I trust that you will not be the organization to favor big business over the lives of the people living in your community

Patricia Robinson, MD, MS

4218 Beechwood Dr Knoxville, TN 37920 (1-L-07-RZ)

### Dear Mark Donaldson

JAN 2 9 2007

As a MPC Executive Director you command a very <u>responsible</u> position. It is essential that Knox County has a long term logical planning process. We are grateful for that!

As a member of The Topside Community Club Inc., one of the first "Community Plans" recorded by the Knox County Courts, I speak with pride and gratitude for this strong **Estate plan's success over the past 57 vears** of neighborhood organization and work. Topside has provided for resident families many basic services by partially financing and making available, water lines, Gas connections, consulting and contributing an accreted design artist to obtain a two-lane bridge over the railroad. We petitioned to have the property transferred from railroad ownership into Knox counties highway system. Our neighbors have worked closely with DOT for safer roads addressing difficult traffic control problems.

This <u>Tennessee State Corporation</u> has bylaws, officers, dues, a yearly published directory, and an annual business meeting to report on the progress of improving and satisfying neighbors needs. The community landscapes and provides water for the Topside Road entrance, encourages volunteers to participate in river cleanup, the Neighborhood Watch program, and to be involved in many other civic duties. We officially took part in the Knoxville 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary by financially dedicating some special plantings. A "Time Capsule" was buried with the area history, this included outlines of the Topside Pike and many historic remembrance items

The two acre land restriction requirement of Estate Zoning has provided protection for our wildlife, --the birds, --and provides space for nature to prevail and display East Tennessee area at its best. We honor our neighborhood and the community that surrounds us. The Estate Zoning area has provided Knox County with a beautiful community entrance that "sets the stage" for great expectations to come. I have had visitors from many states that can not imagine such a "Jewel", so very close to Knoxville and the Airport, has been preserved.

The narrow, curvy, 1920 designed roads, built by the homeowners, can not withstand any more traffic!!! Our speed limit is ignored to say the least.

The property owned by <u>Camdun Realty, I MPC File No. 1-L-07-RZ was purchased with all the Estate restrictions clearly publicized</u>

<u>before the auction.</u> The restriction requested change was a shock to the community. Five dwellings to one acre is ridiculous! It is hard to believe that our professionals of MPC staff are recommending this design for a 2.3 million dollar piece of property???.

The Camdun Realty,1 MPC File No. 1-L-07-RZ land is a treasured Historical piece of property that our Knox County planners should encourage its preservation not its destruction.

Topside stands as one of the outstanding communities that <u>planners</u> dream of providing its citizens. We vote, study public needs, support the <u>business community</u>, contribute to our political leaders, and are willing to give hours of service to improve living conditions.

One fault of our Estate two acre property is that you can hardly find a piece of property to purchase A plus for our controlled zoning and value maintenance. People want to love the land and the space larger lots provide. "Don't Fence Me In " is more than a song--it is a intense feeling.

Please <u>reject</u> the Planned Residential request applied for and our Estate zoning that has <u>provided Knox County so very many</u>

<u>benefits in the past fifty seven years</u>.

Thank you sincerely,

Anne Dean McWhirter Topside Board Member 4017 Topside Road,

Knoxville, TN 37920

January 27,2007

### Benjamin and Judith Bryan

4420 Topside Road • Knoxville • TN 37920 • 865 579 50 50

Mr. Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403, City / County Building 400 Main Street Knoxville, TN 37902

REFERENCE: 1-L-07-RZ (Camdum Realty One)

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

My wife and I are residents of Topside Road on the peninsula in Knox County. We urge you to deny the rezoning request referenced above.

Our experience as long-term residents of Topside Road has been one of fulfillment and pride in the Topside community. The community has the reputation of being one of the best and most convenient locations in the county in which to live. The referenced rezoning will, most likely, not only have the effect of eroding the long-standing character of the community along Topside Road, but will also change the living expectations of the 250 plus folks who invested and bought property there.

Neither Topside Road nor Alcoa Highway is designed to handle the resulting increase in traffic density that would result from an approval to rezone. Alcoa Highway is already famous as one of the most dangerous highways in Tennessee and the traffic density is making access even more deadly every day. One frequent family conversation concerns who will be killed or injured next trying to access Alcoa Highway during morning and evening rush hour. We are aware that the situation is supposed to improve, but so far we have seen little action on the part of those responsible.

Unfortunately, we have had unfortunate experiences before with promises from developers along Topside Road. A prime example was the promise from one developer to develop luxury condominiums along Topside road but pursued development of low quality, high-density structures instead. So I hope you will understand that we have a propensity for doubting the promises of developers concerning Topside Community.

Again, we strongly urge you to disapprove the zoning request.

Sincerely,

Ben and Judith Bryan

### 1/30/2007

Dan and Nannette Daley 3924 Topside Rd Knoxville TN 37920

Re: MPC file # 1-L-07-RZ (Camdun Realty One)

Dear MPC Member,

I am writing to ask you to please support us in not re-zoning the current estate zoning we have

in our Topside Community. This estate zoned area is one of the last remaining in Knox County

and we need to preserve the integrity and long-standing character of our neighborhood. This estate zone is in fact, to many of our neighbors and ourselves, an expectation of living here

on Topside Rd, and one of the many reasons we bought here; the best of both worlds - quiet,

open spaces, and yet close to all the many amenities that Knox County offers. Just a few days

ago when I looked out my front window, there were 3 deer standing in our front yard. Do you

think that could have possibly happened if I had a neighbor within a few feet of my front door?

If we had wanted that "close -to-the-next-house-feeling" we would have bought in a traditional

neighborhood with 5-8 houses per acre. This area was not built for, nor intended to have more

than the current residents that we have now. There is simply not adequate water, sewer, or more

importantly road access available currently. I understand that possibly there would be in the future

but that HAS to come first, not after. It is not safe, nor designed for the high density of traffic that

would be involved on Topside Road or Alcoa Highway

Please, please help us preserve our current estate zoning and way of life.

Thank – you for your time,

Dan Daley

Nannette Daley

02-01-2007

FEB \_ 5 2007

To MPC Commissioners:

Mark Donaldson MPC Exe. Dr.,

Ste 403 city county Bldy

400 mater Street

Knay The 37902

I am sending this letter regarding the proposed rezoning on East Topside Rd. Former Akers Estate. My wife and I moved from West Knoxville two years ago to get away from the congestion and constant construction around the area where we lived We wanted to find an area that was convenient but not so congested. When we found Topside road we fell in love with the area. We both work at Blount Memorial Hospital so the drive is not that bad and we are close to downtown. This area is beautiful a lot of horse farms and estate style houses. When we saw the Akers Estate property was going to be auctioned off we were not that concerned because the property had been divided into 5-7 acre lots. Apparently the sellers thought this would be the best way to go being that the area was estate zoned and by selling the property in 5-acre lots this would keep with the atmosphere of the community. If the zoning is changed to plan residential allowing condos to be built (5 dwellings per acre) this could have the potential of adding 150 condos with 2 cars per household. Getting onto Alcoa highway is dangerous enough already think about how that would be if 300 more cars were trying to enter onto Alcoa highway. The only other way to get onto Alcoa hwy, would be to come down East Topside take a left onto hwy 33 then another left onto the outlet road by Weigles This would create a backup of traffic that would only cause more accidents. East Topside Rd. is a very narrow road and there is not a lot of traffic coming and going on the road. If the rezoning is allowed to take place it will have a horrible effect on the community. Not only will East Topside become more dangerous to travel but also life in the community will be affected as a whole with the added noise and accidents that will happen on the narrow road. It seems to me that beauty of our area is being replaced by development and urban sprawl. We are asking for your help to stop the rezoning. I would hate to see our community become another Northshore Drive where every available acre has been developed Knoxville has been emphasizing the need to create healthy communities this plan will erode a healthy community. I hope you will consider these factors before MPC file number 1-L-07-RZ (Camdun Realty 1) allowing this to happen.

David K. Powell David K Powell

Cindy R. Powell

3342 East Topside Rd. Knoxville, TN. 37920

Mr. Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403, City/County Bldg 400 Main Street Knoxville, TN 37902 February 1, 2007

James & Margaret Hart

3346 E Topside Rd

Knoxville, TN 37920

FED 5 2007

Dear Mr Donaldson,

We are writing this letter to advise you that we oppose the proposed rezoning on East Topside Rd (MPC file number 1-L-07-RZ Camdun Realty I)

Topside Road is a narrow, winding road which already hosts more traffic since the enhancements recently made on the Alcoa Highway side. People find it a handy shortcut from Alcoa to Old Maryville Pike, and vice versa. Particularly during rush hour, people use Topside Road and speeding is a problem that will undoubtedly cause a serious accident soon. The addition of some 150 condominiums will only exacerbate the situation.

Knoxville/Knox County has stated its interest in creating healthy communities with proper infrastructure in place. The existing Topside infrastructure is not capable of safely handling the additional traffic burden that 150 condo's would bring. The result would be a very dangerous threat to the safety and quality of life of current residents. Nor does Alcoa Highway itself, have the infrastructure in place to accommodate the additional traffic that would be created if this rezoning were to be approved.

We ask that you consider the above facts, and reject the rezoning proposal contained in MPC file number 1-L-07-RZ

Thank you for your consideration

Len

Margaret Hart

Margaret Hart

Mr. Greg Swaggerty 3434 Topside Rd Knoxville, TN 37920

MPC Commissioners c/o Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403, City/County Building 400 Main Street Knoxville, TN 37902

FEB C 5 2007

MPC file number: 1-L-07-RZ (Camdun Realty I)

### Mr. Donaldson,

I was shocked to find out that the Atkins estate was in the process of being rezoned from estate to planned residential with 5 dwellings per acre. I fully expected the estate to be developed with residential housing such as the adjoining Anchorage development or even a more upscale development retaining the estate zoning. However, a 5 unit per acre condominium development is completely innappropriate for this community. I read through the MPC staff's recommendation to approve this and feel that they have not done their research or represented the facts properly. To suggest that this type of developent is in-line with the rest of the community is not true. Where else does this exist in the Topside community? The existing condominium development adjoining the Atkins estate has 5 units total. Yes, there is other property in the area zoned for planned residential. But, it is not of this size and does not contain any condominium developments. I did a rough calculation of the average acreage per house in the community and it was just under ¾ of an acre. This rezoning would cut that in half!

Approval of the rezoning effort would completely change the landscape of our community and result in:

- 1) Overuse of Topside Rd (already a very dangerous stretch of road)
- 2) Additional catastrophic accidents at the Alcoa Hwy intersection.
- 3) A complete traffic nightmare on Topside if the left turn on Alcoa Hwy is eliminated while construction progresses for 5 years. How would an additional 150 families, 300 cars, get to the Pellissipi Pkwy or Maryville. You would have to put a red light on Maryville Pike/Topside to let traffic out in the morning.
- 4) Increase the potential of pedestrian accidents on Topside which would include our children.
- 5) Open the door to future developments of the same type.

I strongly oppose this rezoning effort and will be at the meeting on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>. I hope you value our community.

Sincerely

Mr. Greg-Swaggerty

February 3, 2007

MPC Commissioners c/o Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403, City/County Building 400 Main Street Knoxville, TN 37902

MPC file number: 1-L-07-RZ (Camdun Realty I)

Dear Mr. Donaldson,

We saw the re-zoning signs posted on our road, but never dreamed of all the construction planned until we received the paper in our mailbox. With seeing the signs, we could imagine someone wanting to line their pockets with residential development similar to the Anchorage development, but strongly object to the 150 condominiums! This type of development will erode our community for several reasons:

FEB 5 2007

- 1) Our road is already dangerous. The posted speed limit is 30mph, but no one follows that. And with Iopside Road paralleling John Sevier Highway, we already have increased traffic with those knowing of this "shortcut." Just checking our mailboxes can be dangerous.
- 2) We will not allow our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade daughter take the bus due to the high speeds that cars travel on our road. The road is narrow and the many children that live in our community cannot play in their front yards with this danger. You are planning to add to this dangerous situation with allowing the addition of at least 150 (with the possibility of 300 with two per unit or more). Since we will not allow our child take the bus to/from school, we need to make a left hand turn onto Maryville Pike. Currently making this left hand turn has a wait of up to 7 minutes. The danger to this intersection is added to those vehicles sneaking to the right of you to make a right hand turn (they get tired of waiting, too), and makes our wait longer due to that vehicle blocking our vision to make a safe turn. Adding these additional vehicles can only increase this wait and danger
- 3) Alcoa Highway is already well-known as a high-risk accident highway ("I'll Kill Ya Highway). Adding these additional vehicles can only increase the accident rate and God forbid, more deaths. You say there will be a fly-by bridge connecting Topside Road on either side of Alcoa, but that will not be completed in time of the condominium development. Not to mention, you taking away our left hand turn to go to Maryville and Pellissippi Highway to our jobs and providing for our children. I can envision that we would travel across the fly-by bridge, then turn around on the other side to continue onto Alcoa Highway. This will not only effect our side of Topside Road, but bring in the community safety on the other side of Topside Road.
- 4) With the frequent electrical outages in our community, I learned from KUB that we live in an area with a very old electrical grid. I work from home and rely on electricity and the Internet to make my living. Adding these 150 condominiums can only increase the electrical outage rates, as well as decrease the bandwidth on our Internet service in our area.

We would love that you could guarantee that the safety of our citizens (especially our children) and our quality of life will not be compromised, but based on the facts presented, you cannot make such a guarantee!!! We don't believe that the infrastructure would be in place BEFORE any development. That would just be the greater of the evils, anyway. The only way NOT to compromise our community, is to NOT ALLOW such a condominium development to take place. I strongly oppose this rezoning effort and will see you at the meeting on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,





January 31, 2007

Mark Donaldson MPC Exective Director Suite 403 City/County Bldg. 400 Main Street Knoxville, TN 37920

Ref: MPC File # 1-L-07-RZ (Camdun Realty 1)

I'm sure you are very aware of this very important issue to come up at the February 8th MPC hearing.

I'm concerned about the impact on our schools that increased enrollment presents and, especially, the increased school bus traffic on Topside Road which is a **very narrow rural road.** 

Probably more important than this— Alcoa Highway, as we all know, is a high-accident throughway. One of the highest-accident points is at New Topside Road just inside Blount County, **less than a mile** south of this proposed development. Another is at the "improved" intersection at Alcoa Highway and Topside Road East in Knox County This is the closest intersection to the proposed development. This additional traffic would only add to the confusion and danger at these points.

Please help protect our quality of life in this area which is one of the highervalued residential areas of our entire 9th District.

Please vote "NO" for changing this zoning as proposed.

Sincerely,

### KENNETH W. HEATHINGTON, Ph.D., P.E. Consulting Engineer

7653 CHARLTON DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37920

PHONE (865) 573-0500

FA (865) 573-0580

February 1, 2007

Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403 City/County Building 400 Main Street Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

I live in the Topside Community on the west side of Alcoa Highway. My wife, Dr. Betty S. Heathington, and I purchased the property in 1986; thus, we have been in this area for over 20 years. Both my wife and I are retired from The University of Tennessee. We purchased the property with the understanding that estate zoning controlled the development in the area. We did not think that this would change, at least in our lifetime. However, to our amazement a very limited number of individuals want to change our residential area.

I am a licensed civil engineer in several states of which one is the State of Tennessee. I have practiced in the highway safety field for over 43 years and still consult in this field throughout the United States and in Canada. I am attaching a brief sketch of my background just to provide you with a basis for my statements in this letter.

I have been in meetings recently where we have discussed the proposed rezoning of certain property from estate to planned residential with the ability to place 150 residential properties on 30 acres fronting Topside Road on the east side of Alcoa Highway. I am familiar with the location of the property and have very strong objections to the rezoning both as a professional engineer in the highway safety field as well as a homeowner in the Topside Community. The Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) of which I am a Fellow shows that single family detached residential can generate as much as 21.85 motor vehicle trips per day per unit. Thus, on the upper limit, one could anticipate as many as 3,278 motor vehicle trips per day added to Topside Road on the east side of Alcoa Highway.

### **GEOMETRICS OF TOPSIDE ROAD**

The geometrics of Top Side Road in the area of the proposed rezoning are very deficient even for the traffic using the facility at the present time. There are steep vertical curves, sharp horizontal curves, very limited sight distances, and a somewhat narrow roadway without shoulders. To add the potential of 3,278 motor vehicles each day to this roadway violates all engineering principals in the traffic engineering and safety field. In my professional opinion, this could contribute to establishing a very unsafe environment not only for the new travelers but also for those already using the facility.

### **ALCOA HIGHWAY**

I have been living in the Knoxville area for almost 35 years and have lived in the Top Side Community for over 20 years. Alcoa Highway has had severe safety problems ever since I have been in the Knoxville area. In the 1970's, I was asked to perform a study on Alcoa Highway as to the problems which existed and the alternatives to addressing the issues. Very little has been done in the past 30 years although the problems have been well known. I have personally met over the years with Commissioners of Transportation, one Governor and various City and County officials in meetings to discuss the problems with Alcoa Highway. In one meeting which we had with a Governor, Commissioner of Transportation, and the Mayor of Knoxville and a few other people, the state personnel kept insisting that as soon as I-140 was completed, the problems with Alcoa would be solved. My comments to the group were that the opening of I-140 would have little impact, if any, on the operation of Alcoa Highway.

During the construction of the new bridge over Little River, there were accidents resulting in death and serious injury. I contacted TNDOT several times outlining what was occurring and that corrections should be made. Nothing was done and people lost their lives. I talked with the contractor personnel about what they were doing that was unsafe and they simply replied that it was approved by the state.

People who state that improvements are to be made on Alcoa Highway in the near future know very little about the process and what it will take to correct the severe safety problems.

### INTERSECTION OF TOPSIDE ROAD WITH ALCOA HIGHWAY

The intersection of Top Side Road with Alcoa Highway has a terrible design whether you are traveling from the east or west side. I am forced to use the intersection regularly and routinely observe near misses all the time. One will also notice glass on the roadway from time to time which is indicative of some type of impact. The sight distances are not adequate, the speeds are very high for the facility, and the offset of the two roadways make it very unsafe to enter or leave from the east or west. Adding another 3,278 motor vehicles to the intersection each day is really absurd.

### IMPACT ON WATER ON LITTLE RIVER

Little River is very crowded in the summer with recreational watercraft. We have a boat and have water frontage. To add perhaps a 1,000 or more people to the water in Little River in the summers will severely degrade the water recreation activities for those already in the area.

### **REASONS FOR REZONING**

From a totally professional viewpoint, the only reason that I can determine for rezoning the property is to take care of financial interests of the developer. The impacts on the transportation facilities will be very severe and very negative. The impacts on the water on Little River will be severe. Thus, the justification for the zoning change permitting as many as 3,278 more motor vehicle trips in and out on 30 acres in the Topside area on Topside Road cannot be in the interests of safety by preventing deaths and injuries or in even sustaining the amenities available to the current residential owners in Topside. Given the inadequate roadway facilities in this area, the zoning should be kept a at very low density.

I have held several discussions with a large number of people in the Topside area and have not found one single homeowner who supports the rezoning. I strongly urge each and every member of the MPC to use professional criteria, not political criteria, in determining what should be done with the proposed rezoning.

Sincerely,

Kenneth W. Heathington, Ph.D., P.E.

KWH:lom enclosure

### KENNETH W. HEATHINGTON, PH.D., P.E.

7653 Charlton Drive
Knoxville, Tennessee 37920
PH: 865-573-0500

Dr. Kenneth W. Heathington, P.E., holds a B.S. (Petroleum Engineering) and M.S. (Civil Engineering) from The University of Texas (Austin) and a Ph.D. (Civil Engineering) from Northwestern University. He President, Applied Research Associates, Inc., and has held positions as the Associate Vice President for Research and Professor of Civil Engineering, The University of Tennessee; President, The University of Tennessee Research Corporation; and Director, University Venture Capital Center, The University of Tennessee; Director of the Transportation Center, The University of Tennessee; he is retired from The University of Tennessee and holds the rank of Professor Emeritus. He has been Associate Administrator for Traffic Safety Programs, U.S. Department of Transportation; Associate Professor of Civil Engineering, Purdue University; and has held engineering positions with the Illinois Division of Highways, Texas Highway Department, and Continental Oil Company.

He is a licensed professional engineer in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee and Mississippi.

He has been actively engaged in highway safety, highway design and operations, traffic engineering including accident reconstruction and pedestrian movements for over 43 years. His research efforts have been devoted primarily to the transportation engineering and highway safety field and have resulted in the authorship of some 174 papers, reports, and books.

He has been President, The University of Texas Chapter of the Institute of Traffic Engineers; Chairman of the Board, Greater Lafayette (Indiana) Public Transportation Corporation; Executive Director, Airport Ground Transportation Association; Board of Directors, Tennesseans for Better Transportation: Member, National Safety Council, Highway Traffic Safety Division; Secretary/Treasurer, Council of University Transportation Centers; Vice President, Council of University Transportation Centers; President, Council of University Transportation Centers; Editorial Advisory Board, Specialized Transportation Planning & Practice; Advisory Board, Institute for Safety in Transportation, Inc.; Member of Steering Committee, Venture Exchange Forum: The University of Tennessee representative to the White House Conference on Domestic and Economic Affairs held in Knoxville, Tennessee; Delegate to and testified before the White House Domestic Council Public Forum held in Tampa, Florida; Testified on transportation policies and issues to Congress and to various levels of legislative and governmental committees and agencies; The University of Tennessee representative to the National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board; Member, National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board Committee on New Transportation Systems and Technology which is concerned with research associated with new systems and/or the application of new technology to the transportation field; Member, National Academy of Sciences National Cooperative Highway Research Program Advisory Panel B8-12, which was responsible for monitoring NCHRP Project 8-12-Travel Estimation Procedures for Quick Response to Urban Policy Issues; Chairman, National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board Task Force A1T57, Urban Mass Transportation; Chairman, National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board Committee A1E02, Public Transportation Planning and Development; Chairman, National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board Advisory Committee on Airport Landside Capacity: Chairman, National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board, Section E.

Group 1 Council; Chairman, National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board, Group 1 Council Publications Committee; Chairman, National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board Group 1 Council; Chairman, Microcomputer Applications in Transportation, National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board; Chairman, National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board Study Committee for the Double-Trailer Truck Monitoring Study; and Chairman, Advisory Board of the Fairview Technology Center.

He has worked with various states and cities on transportation issues throughout his transportation engineering career.

He is or has been a member of Chi Epsilon, Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Xi, Transportation Research Board, National Society of Professional Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers, Institute of Transportation Engineers, American Society of Engineering Education, Society of Research Administrators, American Board of Forensic Examiners, Human Factors and Ergonomics Society, and various other organizations. He has been listed in Who's Who in America, Who's Who in American Education, Who's Who in Technology, Who's Who in the South and Southwest, American Men and Women in Science, The Directory of Distinguished Americans, Personalities of America, Personalities of the South, Dictionary of International Biography, Biography International, and The International Directory of Distinguished Leadership.

He has been qualified in both state and federal courts as an expert in highway design, highway safety, traffic engineering, railroad-highway grade crossing design and operations, human factors, and accident reconstruction throughout the United States and in Canada.



### TOPSIDE COMMUNITY CLUB, INC.



January 4, 2007

MPC Commissioners C/O Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403, City/County Building 400 Main Street Knoxville, TN 37902

Re: Topside Rezoning (File Number: 1-L-07-RZ)

Dear MPC Commissioners:

It has just come to my attention today about your public hearing next Thursday (1/11/07) to consider the above request for rezoning some 30± acres of open estate property, in our community, from Estate to Planned Residential for attached residential development. You may or may not be aware that this estate (the historic EDELMAR Estate) is the former summer residence of C.B. Atkin, one of the leading figures in Knox County during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries. The house was built in 1914 and has been lived in and maintained since then by decedents of Mr. Atkin up until it was sold a month or so ago.

We, as a community, are greatly concerned about this potential change in zoning, fearing it would change the very character of the Topside Community, which due to current Estate zoning, has historically had very low residential density providing for only 1 dwelling unit for 2 acre lots. Our members have been in contact with the MPC personnel and have only learned that the applicant requests Planned Residential with up to 5 dwelling units per acre. No other information is available at this time. If passed, as requested, single family condominiums housing up to 150 families could result. This would be traumatic to the existing character of our neighborhood, not with standing the overload on the current infrastructure of roads, sewer, water, etc., that would no doubt occur.

We feel that rezoning at this time, without knowledge of the specific development plans for this site would be unfair to the community. Thus, we respectively request that this issue be postponed until such time as the developer has a reasonably detailed plan specific to this property and one that can be discussed with the community.

Finally, I request we be included in any and all future correspondence regarding this issue.

Thank you in advance for taking our request and concerns into consideration.

Respectfully,

Miles Len

Mf. Jimmy Dean, President Topside Community Club, Inc.

4021 Topside Road Knoxville, TN 37920

Cc: Board of Directors, Topside Community Club, Inc.



### KENNETH W. HEATHINGTON, PH.D., P.E.

Consulting Engineer 7653 CHARLTON DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37920 MAR - 1 2007 MINING

PHONE (865) 573-0500

FAX (865) 573-0580

February 27, 2007

Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403 City/County Building 400 Main Street Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 #61 1-L-07-RZ

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

I have reviewed the rezoning report located on the MPC website and would like to comment on certain statements in the report as a transportation engineer who has worked in highway design, traffic engineering, and planning of facilities for almost 44 years. It is based on my years of experience and education in this area that I offer the following comments.

The proposed planned residential zoning is not compatible with the vast majority of the surrounding residential property. The statement on the website is totally false, and I have lived in the Topside Community for over 20 years and am familiar with the development in the general area. The vast majority of the acreage developed in this general area is zoned E (Estates). In addition, the proposed zoning is in no form, shape, or fashion adaptable to the geometric characteristics of the roadway system in this area.

While the land does have direct access to Topside Road, the fact is not addressed that Topside Road is totally inadequate to accommodate the amount of traffic that can be generated by the proposed development. I have difficulty believing that anyone with any expertise in the geometric design of streets and roads and traffic engineering and safety prepared the statement shown on the MPC website. It appears to be a political derivative.

While the land is close to Alcoa Highway, the statement fails to address the issue that the intersection of Topside Road with Alcoa Highway is a very, very unsafe facility with existing traffic much less adding the significant amount of traffic that will be added if the zoning is changed. I personally have to use this intersection going to and from our home, and it is one of the more hazardous locations in the area.

If all of the land mentioned as zoned at five dwelling units per acre in the area becomes developed, MPC will have created the worst traffic congested and unsafe location in the county. The value of the adjacent residential properties will be significantly lowered. I moved from Seven Oaks West over 20 years ago because of the development that was going to occur along

Kingston Pike. One should review the residential areas there now to see what has occurred. It has not been good. I would prefer to not have to move again. The value of our property and the opportunity for interested buyers will be lowered.

While it is stated that MPC will have to review site plans prior to any development of the property, if the same professional expertise is utilized in the review as used in recommending the zoning change, the results can be easily forecasted.

The estimated amount of traffic given in the MPC statements has utilized the lowest level of possible trip generation found in the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) documents. I am a Fellow in ITE. MPC has conveniently ignored the upper limits that certainly can occur.

It is unbelievable that a statement was made that "sight distance appears to be available on Topside Rd." Either the individual(s) making this statement has never made a site inspection of Topside Road in the area or is totally unfamiliar with the standards for sight distances of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

The statements made about the future changes proposed for Alcoa Highway in this area cannot be taken at face value. I personally worked with State and local officials about 30 years ago and through the years identified the needed improvements for Alcoa Highway. These have not been made as of this date. To even remotely believe that any significant changes will be made in the next five to 10 years is ludicrous. In addition, it is a fundamental principle that transportation improvements should lead development - not follow. It is unbelievable that any professional transportation engineer would recommend land development changes hoping that transportation improvements will occur in the future and knowing that everyone living in the general area can be placed in an unsafe and severely congested environment for many years, if not forever.

The statement that "the impact on adjacent properties will be minimized during the use on review/concept plan process" is difficult to believe if the same technical expertise is utilized as in the recommended approval process.

In summary, the justification for the zoning change is filled with inaccuracies and false statements. What is not clear at this time is whether this is intentional or simply a lack of professional expertise in developing the justification for a change in zoning. A zoning change based only on political influence will place an undue burden on those living in this general area. I strongly recommend against any zoning change.

Sincerely,

Kenneth W. Heathington, Ph.D., P.E.

KWH:lom

cc: Wayne Kline, Esq.
Topside Community Club, Inc.
Other Interested Individuals



Today: Mostly cloudy; a t-storm; not as warm

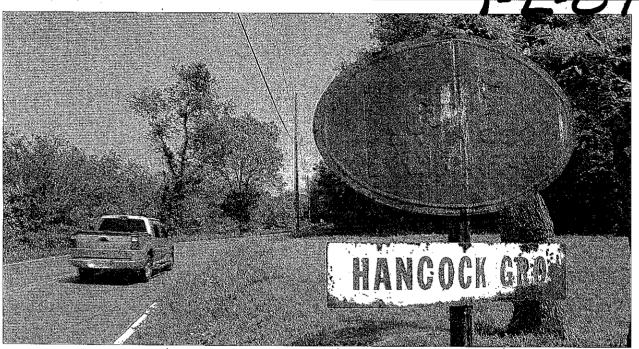
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50 cents \*\*\*\* May 16, 2007

### HWS FITTE Knoxville KnoxNews.com

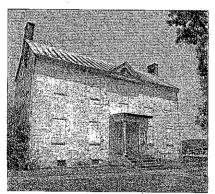


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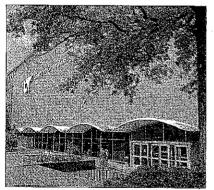


PHOTOS BY CLAY OWEN/NEWS SENTINEL

A truck passes a rusty sign along Kodak Road in East Knox County. The area, known as the French Broad River Corridor, was ranked No. 2 on Knox Heritage's 2007 Most Endangered Historic Places list, also known as the "Fragile 15."



The Col. John C.J. Williams House, 2333 Dandridge Ave, was built in 1826 and is No. 11 on Knox Heritage's "Fragile 15" list



Knox Heritage ranked the University of Tennessee Conference Center, formerly Rich's Department Store, 600 Henley St., No. 3 on its list.



Rounding out the list at No. 15 is Edelmar, 3624 Topside Road, It was built in 1914 and was the summer home of prominent Knoxvillian C B. Atkin.

# HANDLE WITH CAI

'Fragile 15' list revealed, with warehouses back in No 1 spot

BY TOM BENNING

I'hroughout most of Kim Trent's presentation Tuesday on the most endangered historic buildings and places in Knox County, she talked over the loud, repetitive thump of a hammer in the background.

But midway down the "Fragile 15" list, the Knox Heritage president stopped and turned toward a new sound from the McClung warehouses on Jackson Avenue — the whirring buzz of a saw.

### ON KNOXNEWS.COM

Link to Knox Heritage's explanation of each property on this year's Fragile 15 list and get more information about the group

"The sounds of destruction," Trent said with a laugh, almost in disbelief.

Two years after topping the "Fragile 15," the downtown warehouses regained the No. 1 spot in Knox Heritage's annual list, released each May

to mark National Preservation Month. "It's our iob to belo people understand what

is important and why," Trent said. "We are keeping it in the spotlight, saying, 'Here are issues we need to deal with'"

The McClung warehouses moved back up the list after three of its buildings were destroyed in a Feb. 7 fire. The noises behind Trent came from cleanup of the rubble.

"It's really a great way to illustrate what hap-pens with vacant and abandoned historic buildgs," Trent said.

Built in 1911, the warehouses originally served C.M. McClung & Co., a wholesale hardware sup-

See FRAGILF on AG

# faci \$60 defi

Agency eyes ways I offset weather's eff

BY ANDREW E

Staring at a possible \$60 mi cal year, TVA is looking at bel to offset the effects of dry, mi factors on its power operation TVA also said Tuesday that ;

inated as some divisions are restructured, but a spokesman said the federal utility's financial situation is unrelated to potential job cuts.

The utility expects earnings for fiscal 2007, which ends Sept 30, to be 13, the roughly \$431 million proj quarterly financial report file and Exchange Commission.

TVA's fiscal 2007 budget is \$ relies on power sales to some in Tennessee, Kentucky, Alaba gia, North Carolina and Virgi
"The effects of the weathe

purchased power due to more er rated electrical capabilities ment (deratings), along with I increased TVA's delivered co the report reads.

'Additionally, these factors er balance of cash and cash

See TVA or

### TERM-LIMIT TURMO

### Chancello one of tw over sunst

-L-07-RZ

# 1. The McClung warehouses --501-525 W. Jackson Ave.

home to C.M. McClung & Co., a supply company. **Threat:** A Feb. Visible from Interstate 40 in downtown Knoxville, these early 1900s buildings were buildings; fate of remaining wholesale and hardware structure undetermined. fire destroyed three

# 2. French Broad River Corridor\*

architecture and history. **Threat**; Knox County settlers, this area rezonings at Midway Road and contains numerous examples An important river for early I-40 may hurt the relatively Commercial and industrial of 18th- and 19th-century solated area.

### Rich's Department Store)\* — 600 Conference Center (formerly 3. University of Tennessee **Henley St.**

This building, with glazed tile and bricks, "glass-enclosed

Brownlow (4b) and Oakwood

school buildings; South High (4a), 4. Vacant historic Knox County

County, these schools opened Scattered throughout Knox Elementary schools (4c)

Inreat: Preservation.efforts at successful, but the other two in the early to mid-1900s, South High have been remain neglected.

striking example of the modern corner towers and undulating

Source: Knox Heritage

Inreat: Many do not recognize

design wave of the 1950s. concrete canopies," is a

its architectural importance.

NEWS SENTINE

# 5. 26 Market Square

this building housed a number Goods Store from 1880-1900 of businesses. Threat:

Exception to redevelopment of Originally the A.L. Young Dry Market Square; dangerous

6. Walker-Sherrill House — 9320 🟅 state of disrepair. Kingston Pike

(70 (25W LIE)

116

"containing elaborate, unique This is one of two remaining commercial development hand-carved woodwork." Threat: Being crowded by homes in Knox County

# 7. Fort Highey

This South Knoxville tort was a focal point in Civil War efforts Acreage listed for sale at \$3.8 to control the Hoiston River. conducive to development reminders of the fort are earthen trenches. Threat: Today, the only visible million; scenic views

# Historic District — 901 College St. 8. Knoxville College National

buildings of this predominantly and constructed by students. Founded in 1875, the historic black college were designed fineat: Lack of funding to preserve buildings

Built in 1913, this set of 13 row 9. Minvilla (5th Avenue Motel) — 447 N. Broadway

Ministry Center for residential houses was indicative of a period of movement away from downtown. **Threat:** use; should be off list soon Preserved by Volunteer

# 10. The Cal Johnson Building — 301 State St.

Constructed by Knoxville's first black millionaire, this building remaining in Knoxville built by was initially a sewing factory. It is "most likely the largest a tormer slave." **Threat:** Deterioration and lack of commercial structure maintenance

# 11. Col. John C.J. Williams House\* - 2333 Dandridge Ave.

and son-in-law of James White, Williams, a Knoxville politician built this home, noted for its Degradation while owned by architecture, ın 1826. **Threat** state of Tennessee has not been completely undone

# 12. Williams Richards House — 2225 Riverside Drive

This historic plantation house, built by James White's grandson, reportedly

President Andrew Jackson in the mid-1800s. **Threat:** Has not entertained the likes of been restored

### State St.) & The Elliot Hotel (201 13. The Glencoe Building (615 W. Church St.)

residential hotels were the

These two downtown

Threat: Condemned for building importance as a Southeastern rail center in the early 1900s. and safety code violations, product of Knoxville's

# 14. J.C. Penney Building — 412 S.

but new owners are working Built after the "Willion Dollar Threat: Lack of maintenance, Fire" of 1897, this building originally was the Sterchi Brothers Furniture store, on restoration . 5. Edelmar\* - 3624 Topside Road his early 1900s property was proposed rezoning to historic would help preserve property Fountain City. Ihreat: Low; the summer home of C.B. portions of Oakwood and Atkin, developer of large

# owner of the properties to con-

Source: Knox Heritage

\*New on list

### from A1

buildings," he said.

pleased with the preservation hoped they soon would be off School on Tipton Avenue and the 5th Avenue Motel on North Broadway Avenue. Trent was efforts at those two sites and Current owner Mark Saroff could not be reached for comment Tuesday. Matt Turner, Saroff's business partner in othof any new redevelopment er ventures but not the warehouses, said he did not know

UT has invested in interior renovations, and Knox Heritage is concerned the exterior eventually will be redone in an effort to modernize. tinue efforts to rehabilitate the This year's list includes 11 repeat sites, such as South High

"We worry that the building's exterior will be changed before the community understands the value of that architecture," Trent

In a statement, UT did not

outside of public meetings, but they questioned whether the discussions were illegal.

AWSUL

"For years, the widely held two to tango in violation of this act." Stackhouse said Tuesday. "T view in the public is it only takes respectfully beg to differ."

Moncier's case was set for a

from A1

jury trial July II. Fansler had premerging the two lawsuits if er complaints unrelated to the Tennessee Open Meetings Act.

viously said he would consider Moncier would drop several oth-

vening of a governing body of a public body for which a quo-The law applies to the "con-

was designed to give power to "I can't imagine this statute vote, she argued.

two over I7," Stackhouse offered. The Jan 31 commission meeting was prompted by a state held the Knox County charter's term limits, effectively ousting 12 county officeholders who had served two or more terms. They Supreme Court ruling that up-



Date: May 6, 2007

Dear Mr. Mark Donaldson,

We are enclosing a copy of the letter we sent you in January stating our concerns and our <u>opposition</u> to MPC File Number 1-L-07-RZ (Camdun Realty I). Our views remain the same. We are <u>against</u> this proposed rezoning project on East Topside Road.

Please **DO NOT PASS** this rezoning project (1-L-07-RZ Camdun Realty I).

Thank you very much for your time and your consideration of our views before voting on this issue.

Sincerely,

Steven and Rachelle McLees

Date: January 29, 2007

Attention: MPC and County Commission Members

Regarding: MPC File Number 1-L-07-RZ (Camdun Realty I)

To Whom It May Concern:

We are <u>AGAINST</u> the proposed rezoning on East Topside Road (former Akers' Estate). This proposed rezoning project is MPC File Number 1-L-07-RZ (Camdun Realty I)—to change from Estate Zoning to Planned Residential. The proposed use is attached residential (condominiums) for up to 5 dwelling units per acre. This property is 30+ acres: Rezoning could result in 150 condos added to East Topside.

Topside Road is too narrow and too dangerous to accommodate the increase in traffic the rezoning project would create. Accessing Alcoa Highway (AKA: I'll Kill Ya Highway) from Topside Road is a "risky" endeavor at best because of the high volume of traffic on Alcoa Highway as well as the speed of said traffic. Increasing the numbers of people trying to utilize Alcoa Highway to and from Topside Road will only succeed in making a significant problem much worse.

It is totally inappropriate and irresponsible to allow this rezoning project to pass before securing the infrastructure that would accommodate such increases in population and traffic. This rezoning would have such a huge negative impact on the community. The safety of our children and our families would be placed in jeopardy and the quality of life of those of us living in the existing community would be threatened.

While we are do not oppose free enterprise, we are against such enterprises like MPC File Number 1-L-RZ Camdun Realty I that jeopardizes the health, security and sanctity of our community. Please do not pass this rezoning project (1-L-07-RZ Camdun Realty I). It would be an injustice and travesty to place at risk and grave expense the quality of lives of those of us who love to live in the Topside community and who want to maintain the community's integrity.

ach Or Dyers Mi Seen

Sincerely,

Steven Alan McLees and Rachelle Dyess McLees

Homeowners !

**Topside Hills Subdivision** 

Address: 6964 Riverwood Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37920

Telephone: 865-609-9772

May 2, 2007

Art Clancy III, Commissioner Knoxville/Knox County MPC 1816 North Hills Blvd. Knoxville, TN 37917

Ref: 1-L-07-RZ (CAMDUN REALTY, I)

Dear Art,

It has been a while since we chatted about this issue during St. Joseph's Mardi Gras Benefit in mid February. I've waited on sending this letter which further defines my view until the postponement phase ran its course and an actual hearing was likely to occur. It appears that is about to happen soon.

As you know the 30 acre property at issue here is the old C.B. Akin summer estate located directly across the street from my property on Topside Road. It is part of the very unique Topside Community, an organized community of less than 100 exclusive homes in South Knox County. This property, as well as most all of the property in the Topside Community, is currently zoned Estate and has been for over 50 years. Estate zoning, among other things, restricts building to 1 dwelling unit per two acres, thus protecting this community from higher density development which has allowed it to develop into the beautiful community it has over the last 5 decades. This developer is asking for rezoning to Planned Residential with up to 5 attached dwelling units per acre; a 10 times increase in density over what the average current density is for this community.

I am writing to provide you some insight on this subject from my unique perspective of having served 8 years as a MPC commissioner during the late 1990's. As we know the applicant's request for rezoning from Estate to PR up to 5 dwelling units per acre was approved by the MPC professional staff and now awaits approval from the MPC Commissioners. In my tenure as commissioner, I tended to follow the staff's recommendation as they are the professional planners and generally follow established planning guidelines for their reviews and recommendations. In this case the staff followed the various planning documents which recommend low density residential (PR @ 1-5 du/ac) in most buildable areas in the county that are now either rural residential or agriculture. Most zoning planning maps show these areas as green going to yellow. The problem is these planning maps do not differentiate between very established and mature rural communities like the Topside Community and other rural areas that, perhaps, do not have establish communities. All tend to get similar treatment by MPC when it comes to planned growth

The Topside Community, indeed, has clearly established boundaries that date back to the middle 1800's when this area was part of the old Badgett/Russell Farm. It is generally bounded on the north by the Tennessee River, on the south and west by the Little River and on the east by the old Masterson Road. The area is now bisected by Alcoa Highway which in no way diminishes the neighborhood nature of our community. This is truly a unique and quite beautiful area, indeed, a rare place in Knox County. It has open rolling landscape, wooded hills, mountain vistas, lake front estates, minimal traffic, a small neighborhood character, historic homes and a legacy generated by the early families that settled here in the 1800's The original farm house where the Badgett/Russell Farm owners and their descendants lived is now owned by Frank and Barbara Pettway. This Badgett Farm area remained pretty much intact as a farm until the early 1900 when several of Knoxville's prominent families of the time started to establish summer homes and hunting lodges in the area. Some of these names were Akin, Dean, McCroskey, Ford, Chapman and so on. In the fall of 1949, with great foresight to protect this unique and developing area, Judge Bozman and W.C. McCammon of the MPC met with community members and suggested they organize into an official body to pursue protective zoning. The Topside Community was thus formed and Estate Zoning was established by vote in 1950.

Thus, Estate Zoning has protected this community over the years allowing only very low density development and making it the unique community it is and an asset to Knox County. The pressure that the MPC has to establish higher density communities to accommodate future population growth trends is understandable, however, I don't believe it is anyone's intention to purposely degradate long standing, viable communities and neighborhoods such as ours for the sake of development. Increasing densities within this community by a factor of 10 would, indeed do just that. Approving higher density zoning will, no doubt, open the doors for future rezoning on the remaining open land in the Topside Community.

I request you consider the importance of these points to sustaining our community and vote against rezoning for this property; for it is neither good for our community nor Knox County. If you wish to discuss these issues further please feel free to call me on my cell (865-368-5781).

Sincerely,

Mark J. Margetts 3633 Topside Road Knoxville, TN 37920

Cc: Mr. Mark Donaldson,
MPC Executive Director



DALTON I. TOWNSEND
ROY I. AARON
DEAN B. FARMER
DAVID N WEDEKIND
ALBERT J. HARB
EDWARD G. WHITE II
THOMAS H. DICKENSON
J. WILLIAM COLEY
J. MICHAEL HAYNES
T. KENAN SMITH
WAYNE A. KLINE
HIRAM G. TIPTON
KEITH L. EDMISTON
B. CHASE KIBLER
CHRISTOFHER D. HEAGERTY
KRISTI M. DAVIS
JOSHUA M. BALL

ASSOCIATES
LISA J HALL
JOSHUA J BOND
KANDI R YEAGER
E MICHAEL BREZINA III
MATTHEW A BIRDWELL

OF COUNSEL
ROBERT R. CAMPBELL
JOHN W WHEELER
JULIA S HOWARD

REIIRED

JONATHAN H BURNETT

DAVID E SMITH

DOUGLAS I DUTTON

WILLIAM F ALLEY JR

J H HODGES (1896-1983) J H DOUGHTY (1903-1987) RICHARD L CARSON (1912-1980) JOHN P DAVIS JR (1923-1977)



June 11, 2007

Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403, City/County Building 400 Main Street Knoxville, TN 37902

Re: Opposition to MPC File No 1-L-07-RZ, Camdun Realty, I:

Rezoning Request from E (estate zoning) to PR (planned residential; 1-5DU per

acre)

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

As you know by now, I represent the interests of the Topside Community and the Topside Community Club, Inc., a Tennessee Corporation dedicated to meeting the needs and improving the Topside Community and the community at large. The Topside Community is a beautiful historic community with established boundaries that date back to the middle 1800's when this area was part of the old Badgett/Russell Farm. It is bounded on the north by the Tennessee River, on the south and west by the Little River, and on the east by the Old Masterson Road. Although the area is now bisected by Alcoa Highway, that in no way diminishes the nature of the Topside Community. This area has open rolling landscape, wooded hills, mountain vistas, lakefront estates, minimal traffic, a small neighborhood character, historic homes and a legacy generated by the early families that settled there in the 1800's. In the fall of 1949, with great foresight to protect this unique and developing area, Judge Bozeman and W.C. McCammon of the MPC met with community members and suggested they organize into an official body to pursue protective zoning. The Topside Community was thus formed and Estate zoning was established by vote in 1950

Estate zoning has protected this Community over the years, allowing only low-density development in making Topside the unique community it is. Although the pressure of the MPC to establish higher density communities to accommodate future population growth trends is understandable, it is not in this community's best interest to degradate a long-standing viable community and neighborhood such as Topside for the sake of higher density development. This letter is to ask MPC not approve higher density zoning and maintain the Estate zoning and the character of this long-standing, historic and flourishing Knox County community.

Indeed, the South Sector planning maps and the Plan itself support the maintenance of Estate zoning in this area, contrary to the MPC staff report to you. Although some may argue the areas in the planning maps go from green to yellow at certain points, the problem is these planning maps do not differentiate between established and mature rural communities such as our Topside Community, and other rural areas that perhaps do not have established communities or are open spaced and without development. All tend to get similar treatment by MPC when it comes to planned growth; that is clearly an error. Topside stands as one of the outstanding communities in Knox County. It is full of professionals, doctors, PhD's, engineers, educators, scientists and more. The citizens in the Topside Community study public needs, support the business community, contribute to our political leaders, pay lots of property taxes and are willing to give and have provided countless hours of service to improve the living conditions in Knoxville and Knox County. These people love the land and the space that larger lots provide and they seek to maintain the integrity of their Community and the Estate zoning that has been in place for more than 55 years. We ask that you join with them in this important endeavor-

Among the members of the Topside Community are Kenneth W. Heathington, PhD, PE and his wife, Betty S. Heathington, EDD Dr. Kenneth Heathington holds a B.S. in petroleum engineering, an MS in civil engineering, and a PhD in civil engineering. He is a licensed professional engineer in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee and Mississippi and has been actively engaged in highway safety, highway design and operations, traffic engineering and pedestrian movements for over 43 years. His research efforts have been devoted to the transportation engineering and highway safety field and he has authored more than 174 papers, reports and books. Dr. Heathington has studied the proposed rezoning of the Camdun Realty property at issue and reviewed the rezoning report of MPC staff in light of his research and investigation. Rather than going into detail on his conclusions and findings, I refer you to your packets in which you will find letters from Dr. Heathington dated February 1, 2007, February 27, 2007, and June 8, 2007 It is critically important that the Metropolitan Planning Commission understand the ramifications of allowing Camdun Realty's rezoning request in light of the dangerous effect the potential development with accompanying motor vehicle trips per day added to Topside Road and the severe safety problems it will create. It is important to note that although MPC staff indicates future changes are proposed for Alcoa Highway in this area, there have been thirty years of identified needed improvements for Alcoa Highway, and to even remotely believe that any significant changes will be made in the next five to ten years at the intersection of Topside Road and Alcoa Highway is wishful thinking at best. There are no funds in place nor are there slated improvements to be made on Alcoa Highway in the near future to correct the severe safety problems Dr. Heathington cites in his letters. Increasing the amount of conflicting traffic from Topside Road into this

June 11, 2007 Page Three

already existing 53,000 daily traffic volume between John Sevier Highway and the Blount County line (2006 figures) without first performing needed highway facility development will result only in an environment that increases the number of fatalities and ignores the safety of the community members and their children. The Metropolitan Planning Commission must be concerned about the impact of a requested zoning change upon the community and not about the amount of money a given developer can make Staff review of this rezoning application under Article IX, Section I of the MPC Administrative Rules and Procedures titled "Rezoning" under Section B requires that the effect of the proposal be considered in light of additional demands that will be placed on the schools, streets and utilities (emphasis added). MPC staff has failed to address this mandate in its rezoning report and staff's discussion of scheduled improvements within the next five to ten years with an estimated construction start date of calendar year 2010 is inaccurate, unfounded, and most importantly unfunded. MPC staff also cites that this proposal may not be appropriate were it not for upcoming improvements to the intersection. Placing future improvements after an increase in zoning density places the cart before the horse and jeopardizes people's lives and safety for the request of an unwanted rezoning that if approved, will forever alter the character of this community.

Your owner and developer, Mr. Campbell and Camdun Realty were entirely aware of the nature of the rezoning status of this important piece of historical property when on November 18, 2006, at auction they purchased the property consisting of approximately 30 acres; that acreage being subdivided into five tracts to be offered separately or as a whole as well as the historic 1914 era 4,000 square foot summer home of Clay Brown Atkin. When it was purchased, "Edelmar" in its brochure for auction by Furrow Auction Company stated under "Zoning information – Edelmar Estate, E (estate zone) designed for residential areas at very low population densities — minimal requirements are a minimum of two acres for a one or two family dwelling and no building shall occupy more than 30% of its lot area." The section went on to quote verbatim Article V of the zoning regulations for Knox County, particularly 5 21 "estate zone" (E). Mr. Campbell's purchase of the property was with full knowledge of its zoning status as Estate zoned and he should not be allowed now to come into this community and change the zoning to suit his personal planning and financial requirements.

The requested PR rezoning allows for up to 150 units on this single property within a community in which residents have purchased homes, often in large part because of the Estate zoning requirement and resulting spacious settings. Knowing that the property was zoned Estate when it was purchased at auction makes the petition before you for a rezoning change to Planned Residential completely unreasonable and violates the MPC objective of developing land in harmony with preservation of communities. A decision to change the zoning, and therefore the quality of life in the community, as well as the traffic patterns and the safety of its residents, without considering the opinions and welfare of this existing Community is a mistake. Making those changes without the development of appropriate infrastructure would be a decision based upon financial

June 11, 2007 Page Four

motive and not in the interest of the people of Knoxville or its communities. Knox County planners are cognizant of and seek to preserve the unique qualities of existing heathy communities in Knox County. Allowing a zoning change such as requested by Camdun Realty at this time would be irresponsible given the lack of existing infrastructure and the immediate resulting harm to this existing healthy, responsible, and desirable community.

You have had many letters sent to you in opposition and I am sure many, many phone calls. I represent the entire community of over 500 residents, 150 homes; a thriving community with established community guidelines and the maintenance of Estate zoning for over 57 years. Don't destroy this legacy

Members of the Community and the Board of Directors of Topside Community Club, Inc. have met with the developers and have attempted to work out a compromise whereby the developer could realize a return on his investment while at the same time the community could maintain its integrity and established zoning. Although the community illustrated to the developer how it could meet its financial objectives and maintain the integrity of the communities objectives, it appears that the financial needs or goals of the developer is greater than that which a community the likes of Harrison Keepe, or other Estate zoned communities can offer. Apparently, the desired price tag is out of reach for anything less than high density residential development.

For these reasons and more, the Topside Community respectfully requests that MPC deny Camdun Realty's application for a Planned Residential zoning and send a clear message that Estate zoning is a viable and valuable zone when placed in the right community, with the right objectives, and in the right location

Respectfully

Wayne A. Kline

Attorney for Topside Community and Topside Community Club, Inc.

WAK/ld Enclosures

## KENNETH W. HEATHINGTON, PH.D., P.E. Consulting Engineer

7653 CHARLTON DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37920

PHONE (865) 573-0500



June 8, 2007

1-L-07-RZ

Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403 City/County Building 400 Main Street Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

I have been in meetings over the past several weeks and have held numerous discussions with individuals about the proposed zoning change from estate to planned residential in the Topside Community. I have also spoken with an individual on the MPC staff regarding the analysis that has been done before the recommendations were made to make a zoning change. It was appalling to learn that MPC had not done any impact analysis of the proposed change in zoning. In fact, the individual from the MPC referred to it as agricultural land. He did not seem to know what was actually there. As I understand MPC, there has been no analysis of the impact on water quality, air quality, highway safety, congestion, time delays, increased energy usage, schools, or anything else. As a licensed engineer in several states practicing in transportation for over 44 years, I cannot understand why an impact analysis would be performed after the fact.

It is my understanding that at one of the meetings a commissioner called the people in our community "Topside Rednecks". I believe that portrays the same level of intelligence and knowledge that has been demonstrated in other areas of our government in the past few years. In the Topside Community, we have doctors of engineering, medicine, education, science, and other fields. The Topside community is made up of very professional people in all areas and has been that way since we moved here in 1986.

The average daily traffic volume between John Sevier Highway and the Blount County line was over 53,000 in 2006. It has been in this range of traffic volume for the last few years. This is clearly a very significant volume of traffic. Motor vehicles including very large trucks are traveling in the range of 60 mph to 70 mph as they approach the bridge over Little River. From 2000 to 2005 on Alcoa Highway in Knox County, there have been eight (8) fatalities that can be identified, resulting from eight (8) individual accidents. Increasing the amount of conflicting traffic from Topside Road into this 53,000 traffic volume will only result in an environment for increasing the number of fatalities. The results of the decision making on this proposed zoning change has a direct bearing upon the people who not only live and work in this particular area but also with those who are traveling in all directions coming through the area on Alcoa Highway. MPC should

have an interest in the safely of people in the community. They should not ignore the safety of community members and their children. As I stated above, it is appalling to learn that MPC did not profess to have any knowledge of the activities on Alcoa Highway and the potential for creating an environment that would result in fatalities and serious injuries.

Having worked in urban transportation planning and highway safety for over 44 years, I cannot understand why an impact study was not performed before any rezoning would be approved. Land development should always lag behind highway facility development - not the other way around. Whenever transportation development lags the land use development, one finds that oftentimes very unsafe conditions are created resulting in a high level of congestion, increased energy consumption, increased travel times, increased air pollution, and various other undesirable and unnecessary activities. The Metropolitan Planning Commission should be concerned about the impact upon the community - not upon the amount of money a given developer can make. With the process currently being used by MPC, it would appear to be much like a hospital administrator who strongly believes that the insurance companies should be protected and that patient care should have a very low priority relatively speaking. If we are in a truly democratic society, then the concerns of the majority of the people in any given area should be very important.

The geometrics of the roadway system in the area, which will have to accommodate the growth, are totally deficient and do not even come close to meeting the standards of care in the transportation field. From everything I have reviewed relative to the MPC considerations on this project, no thought of any consequences has been given to this. The impact upon the safety of the motoring public traveling in this area will be very significant. This should not be ignored under any circumstances. If the rezoning is approved, one can say with reasonable engineering certainty that additional fatalities will occur.

It would appear that professionalism has been removed from the formal planning process that addresses this proposed zoning change. It is not the time in this country to ignore professional expertise. We do not need more political decision making as there has been too much of that in the past few years. We need sound judgment based on facts that will impact the community at large. The impacts that can occur from this proposed zoning change can be very serious. These impacts should not be ignored in the decision making process as is presently being done.

Sincerely,

X W Heathington/DPM

Kenneth W. Heathington, Ph.D., P.E.

KWH:sae

### BETTY S. HEATHINGTON, Ed.D.

EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT 7653 CHARLTON DRIVE KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37920

PHONE (865) 573-0500

JUN 1 1 2007

June 7, 2007

Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403 City/County Building 400 Main Street Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 1-L-07-RZ

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

I have been in meetings in our community where the many concerns regarding the proposed rezoning from estate to planned residential in the Topside Community area have been discussed with the significant increase in population. I, as an educator with over 40 years in the educational field, am concerned about the impact of this dramatic population increase on the school systems in the area. I have not seen a statement to the effect that this issue has been pursued with the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) by the developer. It is not an issue that should be addressed after the rezoning has been approved.

While many developers quickly build housing developments, it is a lengthy process to plan, approve, and develop new schools or additions to schools. When adequate planning by a county has not been done, the result is often temporary portable buildings that must be brought onto a school site for the overload of students. This is certainly not conducive to efficient student education. As the former Director of the Office of Field Studies in The University of Tennessee College of Education, I am certainly familiar with schools in Tennessee that had to resort to portable classrooms because of unexpected growth.

I am amazed that the MPC apparently has not conferred with the Knox County School System to determine the impact of this potential dramatic increase in students due to the expanded number of residents per acre that this proposed development can generate. It is difficult to understand the approval of changes without any analysis of the potential impact.

Sincerely,

Betty & Heathington / DPM

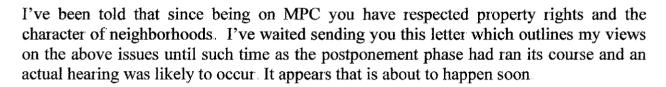
Betty S. Heathington, Ed.D.

June 8, 2007

Mr. Ray Evans, Vice Chair, MPC Commission SafeT Systems 2051 Castiac Lane Knoxville, TN 37932

Ref: 1-L-07-RZ (CAMDUN REALTY, I)

Dear Mr. Evans,



As you know, the 30± acres of property at issue here is the old C.B. Akin summer estate located directly across the street from my property on Topside Road. It is part of the very unique Topside Community, an organized community of less than 100 exclusive homes in South Knox County. This property, as well as most all of the property in the Topside Community, is currently zoned Estate and has been for over 50 years. Estate zoning, among other things, restricts building to 1 dwelling unit per two acres, thus protecting this community from higher density development which has allowed it to develop into the beautiful community it has over the last 5 decades. This developer is asking for rezoning to Planned Residential with up to 5 attached dwelling units per acre; a 10 times increase in density over what the average current density is for this community. His current concept plan shows 60 dwelling units comprised of 42 condominiums and 18 single family residences, certainly not consistent with the estate nature of the Topside Community. In addition the condos would be located where the existing beautiful and historic old Akin home is which would result in its demolition.

I am writing to provide you some insight on this subject from my unique perspective of having served 8 years as a MPC commissioner during the late 1990's. As we know the applicant's request for rezoning from Estate to PR up to 5 dwelling units per acre was approved by the MPC professional staff and now awaits approval from the MPC Commissioners. In my tenure as commissioner, I tended to follow the staff's recommendation as they are the professional planners and generally follow established planning guidelines for their reviews and recommendations. In this case the staff followed the various planning documents which recommend low density residential (PR @ 1-5 du/ac) in most buildable areas in the county that are now either rural residential or agriculture. Most zoning planning maps show these areas as green going to yellow. The problem is these planning maps do not differentiate between very established and mature rural communities like the Topside Community and other rural areas that, perhaps, do not



have establish communities. All tend to get similar treatment by MPC when it comes to planned growth.

The Topside Community, indeed, has clearly established boundaries that date back to the middle 1800's when this area was part of the old Badgett/Russell Farm. It is generally bounded on the north by the Tennessee River, on the south and west by the Little River and on the east by the old Masterson Road. The area is now bisected by Alcoa Highway which in no way diminishes the neighborhood nature of our community. This is truly a unique and quite beautiful area, indeed, a rare place in Knox County. It has open rolling landscape, wooded hills, mountain vistas, lake front estates, minimal traffic, a small neighborhood character, historic homes and a legacy generated by the early families that settled here in the 1800's The original farm house where the Badgett/Russell Farm owners and their descendants lived is now owned by Frank and Barbara Pettway This Badgett Farm area remained pretty much intact as a farm until the early 1900 when several of Knoxville's prominent families of the time started to establish summer homes and hunting lodges in the area. Some of these names were Akin, Dean, McCroskey, Ford, Chapman and so on. In the fall of 1949, with great foresight to protect this unique and developing area, Judge Bozman and W.C. McCammon of the MPC met with community members and suggested they organize into an official body to pursue protective zoning. The Topside Community was thus formed and Estate Zoning was established by vote in <del>1950.</del>

Thus, Estate Zoning has protected this community over the years allowing only very low density development and making it the unique community it is and an asset to Knox County. The pressure that the MPC has to establish higher density communities to accommodate future population growth trends is understandable; however, I don't believe it is anyone's intention to purposely degradate long standing, viable communities and neighborhoods such as ours for the sake of development. Increasing densities within this community by a factor of 6-10 would, indeed do just that. Approving higher density zoning will, no doubt, open the doors for future rezoning on the remaining open land in the Topside Community.

I request you consider the importance of these points to sustaining our community and vote against rezoning for this property; for it is neither good for our community nor Knox County. If you wish to discuss these issues further please feel free to call me on my cell (865-368-5781).

Sincerely,

Mul / Mmutt Mark J. Margetts

3633 Topside Road Knoxville, TN 37920

Cc: Mr. Mark Donaldson, A

MPC Executive Director

PETITION TO KNOXVILLE/KNOX COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION RE: MPC FILE #1-L-07-RZ (CAMDUN REALTY 1) southeast side Topside Rd., northeast of Alcoa Hwy.. COMMISSION DISTRICT 9. REZONING FROM E (ESTATES) TO (PLANNED RESIDENTIAL)

We the undersigned residents of the Topside/South-Doyle neighborhoods, oppose the rezoning of the above mentioned item and request that the MPC Commissioners deny this rezoning request.

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# PETITION TO KNOXVILLE/KNOX COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION RE: MPC FILE #1-L-07-RZ (CAMDUN REALTY 1) southeast side Topside Rd., northeast of Alcoa Hwy., COMMISSION DISTRICT 9. REZONING FROM E (ESTATES) TO (PLANNED RESIDENTIAL)

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# PETITION TO KNOXVILLE/KNOX COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION RE: MPC FILE #1-L-07-RZ (CAMDUN REALTY 1) southeast side Topside Rd., northeast of Aloa Hwy.. COMMISSION DISTRICT 9. REZONING FROM E (ESTATES) TO (PLANNED RESIDENTIAL)

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### Benjamin and Judith Bryan

4420 Topside Road • Knoxville • TN 37920 • 865 579 5050

Mr. Mark Donaldson MPC Executive Director Suite 403, City / County Building 400 Main Street Knoxville, TN 37902

REFERENCE: 1-L-07-RZ (Camdum Realty One)

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

My wife and I are residents of Topside Road on the peninsula in Knox County. We wrote you earlier to urge you to disapprove the zoning request referenced above for reasons presented then.

Since the earlier correspondence, I looked at the geologic structure of the area of development and have new concerns. I have a graduate degree in the Earth Sciences (M.S. Geophysics), have 20+ years of experience in geology and geophysics with TVA and several petroleum companies and am quite familiar with the geology of the area proposed for development.

Four hundred and fifty million year old Ordovician rocks of the Holston Formation and Chapman Ridge Sandstone (grey to red bioclastic sandstone with minor calcareous sandstone, shale, and silty shale) and the Ottosee Shale (Shale, siltstone, sandstone and limestone) underlie the referenced area. The formations have a synclinal structure (U-shaped) about two miles wide in the area. These rocks generally weather to a thin residual soil, which has locally low hydraulic conductivity (a soil that does not conduct or absorb fluids well...an acquitard).

My new concern with the referenced development is the plan for handling sewage. I understand that sewage lines now run to the portion of East Topside Road nearest Alcoa Highway, but not all of Topside. With the housing density I understand is planned for the referenced development combined with the low hydraulic conductivity of the soil, septic systems will probably not be a viable option. At the very least, the developer will have to plan and develop sewage systems to connect to an extension of the sewage lines, which I understand now service the Landings Development. The use of septic systems for the planned development will most likely result in a somewhat smelly failure. Unless the developer formally commits to design and construction of the development to connection to extension of the existing nearby sewage lines, I recommend immediate denial of the zoning request.

To confirm my opinion, I recommend the MPC consult with a professional soils scientist, such as Dr. Paul Baxter of Pellissippi State Technical Community College.

Again, we strongly urge you to disapprove the zoning request.

Sincerely,

Ben and Judith Bryan