

12 December 2023

Dear Commissioners,

I sadly have to write again about the same topic and agenda item - this time in a new form - as I have previously - The Lantern Park subdivision (12-SF-23-C). This project, owned and developed by Scott Smith, continues to be illegally pushed upon you as Commissioners. The idea is that if they keep on asking, keep on attempting to circumvent - and in fact blatantly not follow - local rules and ordinances as well as the law of the State of Tennessee, they could wear down anyone who stands in their way. Their mantra is essentially "might makes right."

Are you really okay with this? Does this sit right with you? After being challenged in court and losing their case on its merit, they come back to you petitioning you to "bail them out," as it were. There is no legal, ethical, or moral reason for you to perpetuate and enable someone who has shown such blatant disregard for the law throughout each step of this process. Instead of accepting the reality of the plot of land he purchased and designing a subdivision in keeping with existing law, Mr. Smith has consistently disregarded the law and decided that he is above the law. He then asks people he knows to aid in this enterprise.

This development has already been ruled illegal in Chancery court. How many more times does he need to be told "No"? How many more times will he ask you to enable him and make yourselves, the KPC, and the taxpayers of Knox County party to his scheme?

Please know that we will continue to vigorously oppose what we know to be right, what the judge has already ruled to be illegal, as well as what you - if you are being honest - know to be wrong.

We respectfully ask that you DENY this plan before you, in accordance with, among other things, staff recommendation. It is not your job to bail out developers who seek "end arounds" established law and common sense

Respectfully,

Michael Douglas