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Encanto Village Planning Committee  
c/o Joshua Bednarek  
City of Phoenix Planning Department  
200 West Washington Street 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Phoenix, Arizona 85003-1611

Dear Planning Committee Members:

As acting president of the Manor Drive Homeowners' Association, I am writing to express our neighborhood's opposition to the 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Earll Drive Rezoning Application (Z-119-07-04)—the redevelopment and rezoning of the Country Club Apartments. Our neighborhood is located on the east side of the Phoenix Country Club, and as a historic neighborhood surrounded by increased development, we are concerned about any potential decline in quality of life and property value for all homes and families in the vicinity. We believe that this action threatens not only the neighborhoods directly adjacent to the proposed development, but all the neighborhoods in the area. It is time that the City affords families living in our neighborhoods the same respect and consideration as it affords developers.

As I am sure you know, many of us who live in the Central Corridor have made a conscious choice to live here. Many of us work downtown, and many of us have a strong commitment to maintaining the historical and unique character of this area of the city. That commitment, though, cannot rest solely upon our shoulders. It also requires the foresight and fortitude of those in authority to do all they can to help us maintain that uniqueness.

Part of that uniqueness, of course, is the urban mix that defines the Corridor. Indeed, one of the reasons we live here is because of that mix of commercial, business, and residential. But, as any urban planner knows, that mix requires a delicate balance, especially in historic areas. Tilt the plan too much in one direction, and entire neighborhoods and sections of a city can collapse and slip into decline.

The development overlay for downtown Phoenix and the Central Corridor calls for development between Central Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. But the area between 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Street is a separate and distinct neighborhood, especially between Thomas and Earll—the location of the site proposed for rezoning. Many of the homes in that neighborhood were built in the first half of the last century, and they represent a crucial part of Phoenix's architectural history. But, more importantly, they represent a neighborhood—a neighborhood that has clung tenaciously to life in spite of what can seem like endlessly callous attempts by the City and developers to destroy it. The

proposed plan for rezoning and redeveloping the Country Club Apartment site, if approved, could be the act that leads to the final unfraying of the fabric that holds this neighborhood together. It would completely disrupt the scale and balance of not only the immediate site, but also of the surrounding homes and businesses on both 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Earll Drive.

In closing, let me say, that like other neighborhoods in the area, we are not opposed to the redevelopment of the Country Club Apartment site. But we would like to see it done in a way that addresses and respects our needs, our quality of life, and our concerns. That is not too much to ask of any government committee, agency, or public servant. We trust you will agree.

Sincerely,

Robert Adams