

Testimony to PSC November 2015

- Resident of almost a decade, live on N. Charleston
- 100 yrs since Portland annexed SJ – change has always been a part of the area. Downtown Lombard was still Jersey St. until 1960s. Property values rebounding after recession, grateful. More amenities present, wonderful.
- Website notes BPS **preserve distinctive places**. [Board heavily comprised of real estate interests, PR and attys who likely have a decidedly different viewpoint on such issues than those of us who live in the community. You are failing to achieve this intention and do not speak for/represent us]. Series of fake red brick facades that now dominate the east end of our downtown hardly preserves the distinct quality of the SJ community.
- Development and right-of-way changes assoc are fait accompli - a thing that has already happened or been decided before those affected hear about it, leaving them with no option but to accept. Buildings started coming down last week. Frustrating that the only issue about which we can give input is the rt-of-way vacation. Many of us would have dearly loved to give you feedback about a 4-story structure that will tower over its surrounding neighbors and increase traffic and pkg congestion.

- Tree replacement, traffic, and signal timing
 - At least 30 trees, many mature and beautiful, are being lost – tree code for developer replacement is entirely inadequate – **request increased requirement for scope of lost greenspace**
 - Traffic in this area is increasingly congested – this morning at 8:20 on N. Ivanhoe, traffic from the bridge past McMenemy's/N. Richmond; at day's end, 100 cars snake up Germantown Rd matched by full line of cars coming from HWY 30 – our neighborhood has become a cut thru, roads not meant for this traffic demand
 - Also access/exit for this building on Charleston adjacent to library and across from school – **collectively, what mitigation is provided? - request updated traffic study in area including parking setbacks to increase safety –**
 - Coordination of Traffic signals (Ivanhoe/Lombard/Jersey at Richmond seem to increase congestion and back-up - **look at signal timing and phases**

As a native of East Coast, there is richness in preservation of original/older elements in a community. Please help preserve the character of SJ as you promote increased density.

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