



EAST VILLAGE

P.O. Box 93904 | Des Moines, IA 50393 | EastVillageDesMoines.com

2014-15 HEV
Board of Directors

May 15, 2015

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City Council and City Staff
Des Moines City Hall
400 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear City Council and City Staff:

Ryan Bomer
Same Erickson
Josh Garrett
Ashley Holter
Chris LoRang
Keith Snow
Brad Willemsen
Tyler Wyngarden

This letter expresses the Historic East Village neighborhood association's support for the concept being advanced by East Village Growth Partners, LLC for the 219 East Grand site. We are choosing to support the "concept" at this point because we know even after the City selects a developer for this site there needs to be extensive review and financial analysis of the design, during which it will no doubt evolve considerably. We aim to stay closely involved throughout that process, and to contribute our views at appropriate points along the way.

The preliminary work we have seen from East Village Growth Partners looks to be well-attuned to the priorities the East Village association recently laid out in our "Guiding Principles" for development in our neighborhood. See attached.

Specifically, the concept shows this group understands our neighborhood and recognizes the importance of:

- Enhancing the walkability of the East Village neighborhood
- Bringing another interesting, mixed-use development to the neighborhood which includes housing, retail, hospitality, and commercial office space
- Seeking to address parking needs brought on by the development

Honorary Members
Jake Christensen
Guy Cook
Johnny Danos
Bill Van Orsdel

As we all know, the 219 East Grand property is keystone, playing a critical role in linking the Downtown and East Village. We look forward to partnering with the City and the development team selected to help make sure this location achieves its full potential.

Sincerely,

Mark Tezak
Vice President, Historic East Village Inc.

CC: Colleen MacRae, President, Historic East Village Inc.
Board Members, Historic East Village Inc.
East Village Growth Partners, LLC