

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Gordon Smith <gordonsmith@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Gordon Smith  
**Sent:** Friday, July 07, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** Linden  
**Cc:** councilgroup;Executive Air;Esther Manheimer;Gwen Wisler  
**Subject:** Re: Proposal for Pritchard Park and Basilica of St. Lawrence Park

Thanks, Linden. It's great that so many people are impassioned about this downtown site. You may be aware that City Council unanimously decided to appoint a Task Force to work on a vision for the site. That vision was approved by the Task Force on a 16-1 vote. We're now working on getting a design firm to help us design according to those recommendations, which include green space, other civic open space, and some built elements. You can read their report here:

<https://www.slideshare.net/gordonsmithasheville/haywood-st-visioning-project-final-report>

Be well,

Gordon Smith

On Fri, Jul 7, 2017 at 8:33 AM, Linden <[ontjesl@gmail.com](mailto:ontjesl@gmail.com)> wrote:

### **Proposal for Pritchard Park and Basilica of St. Lawrence Park**

1. Parks do not **create** homeless populations. Measures to **remove homeless** are in the interests of residents, visitors, businesses, and public safety. The experiment of park rangers and public monitors has failed. We are being held hostage by a small minority population. This failure, furthermore, weakens commitment to additional parks.

**2. Green space is not a luxury; it is a necessity.**

We should not sacrifice our green open spaces: vital in a growing downtown that depends upon its attractiveness to encourage visitors and increasingly, condo-owners. Once green space is lost to bad planning, it cannot be recovered Asheville voters passed the Parks and Rec bond to underwrite costs. Access to parks can be limited to residents without losing any of the environmental, health and public safety benefits still provided to everyone.

Asheville voters have spoken loudly and repeatedly about their frustration with downtown city planning that fails to **provide parking and protect green space**. This public opinion is growing and will not tolerate **failure to listen**.

### **Pritchard Park**

Homeless currently congregate at vacant building adjacent to S&W Cafeteria and spill over into Pritchard Park.

**Create public parking structure on the current vacant building site using eminent domain on the grounds of attractive nuisance. Reclassification of Pritchard Park as "local residential membership open space" would allow lawful exclusion of others. DARN already participates in maintaining the park. The private park model is common in other countries and has proven success.**

### **Basilica of St. Lawrence Park**

The intersection across from the Civic Center is badly overwhelmed with traffic. Any additional traffic there would shut down access to downtown. Pedestrians are already at risk

**Private residential membership dues would support a dog park in this location. The fence and landscaping are already in place. This supports the Downtown Master Plan of creating community and encouraging stakeholders.**

**The City already owns the land; local government must recognize that voters will fight any plan of short-term profit through sale to a developer.**

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Esther Manheimer <esthermanheimer@avlouncil.com> on behalf of Esther Manheimer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 05, 2017 1:35 PM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov; Jaime Matthews; Judith Bicking; gjackson@achevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** Re: St. Lawrence Green

Gary - can you get us some information about the timing of bringing water to the site?

On Wed, Jul 5, 2017 at 1:15 PM Judith Bicking <[graphics@bicking.com](mailto:graphics@bicking.com)> wrote:

Please supply water to the St. Lawrence Green, Elder and Sage Community Garden and please save it from development.

This garden truly represents Asheville's character – a caring community coming together to preserve a fragment of nature and to create a much needed respite in a city rapidly losing both nature and character through development.

Sincerely,  
J. Bicking

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Judith Bicking <graphics@bicking.com> on behalf of Judith Bicking  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 05, 2017 1:15 PM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** St. Lawrence Green

Please supply water to the St. Lawrence Green, Elder and Sage Community Garden and please save it from development.

This garden truly represents Asheville's character – a caring community coming together to preserve a fragment of nature and to create a much needed respite in a city rapidly losing both nature and character through development.

Sincerely,  
J. Bicking

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@gmail.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, June 05, 2017 4:45 PM  
**To:** Gary Jackson;Virginia Daffron;Burgess, Joel;ashevilleblade@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Dana Frankel;Sam Powers;councilgroup;Dawa Hitch;Polly McDaniel;Cathy Ball  
**Subject:** Re: Thanks for running the poll!

Given the overwhelming opinion of Asheville citizens, expressed in thousands of signatures on petitions for more than a decade; based on the results of the ADC polling; based on the latest online poll; there is no rational excuse for not naming the space St. Lawrence Green or St. Lawrence Park.

Continuing to refute the opinion of Asheville's citizens is simply nuts.

Staff has no power to decide what is an "adequate" name. This must be a decision by Council, in response to the will of the people who elect us.

-c

On Jun 5, 2017, at 3:55 PM, Gary Jackson <[GJackson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:GJackson@ashevillenc.gov)> wrote:

Thanks Dana. Given the circumstances, postponing any naming seems wise.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 1, 2017, at 6:21 PM, Dana Frankel <[DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov)> wrote:

Gary:

The intent of the poll was to get feedback for temporary identification and wayfinding purposes when the site is made available for temporary uses.

Based on feedback from the poll, some respondents may have understood this to be an official or permanent naming of the site associated with its long term use, which it was not. Our staff communications could have been made clearer.

Since the primary goal is temporary site identification and wayfinding, the address of the property "68 Haywood Street" should serve its purpose adequately.

For publicly owned properties such as buildings, parks, squares and greenways, the City has a policy in place for naming, whereas consideration is led by Council, and adoption follows a majority vote by Council. (Attached for reference.)

Please let me know if you have any feedback, questions or concerns.

Thank you,  
Dana

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**From:** Gary Jackson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 30, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** Dana Frankel <[DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Jaime Matthews <[JMatthews@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:JMatthews@ashevillenc.gov)>; Roderick Simmons <[RSimmons@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:RSimmons@ashevillenc.gov)>; Maggie Burleson <[MBurleson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:MBurleson@ashevillenc.gov)>; councilgroup <[AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Thanks for running the poll!

Dana:

What "naming" process follows the survey? Please research policy guidelines for naming a municipal park, including a search for Council adopted policy/resolutions and double checking with Roderick Simmons on recent precedents.

Gary

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell [<mailto:cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 30, 2017 6:26 AM  
**To:** Gary Jackson <[GJackson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:GJackson@ashevillenc.gov)>; Jaime Matthews <[JMatthews@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:JMatthews@ashevillenc.gov)>; Dana Frankel <[DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov)>  
**Subject:** Thanks for running the poll!

It's clear that the overwhelming choice of respondents was for St. Lawrence Green or Park. (53 of 136 who offered an idea, 29 opting Green)  
I'm confident that the Staff choice will follow the wishes of Asheville citizens. (Though I'm still not clear why "staff" was accorded the choice of a name.)

Thanks

-C

***"The whole art of government consists in the art of being honest. Only aim to do your duty and mankind will give you credit where you fail."***

- Thomas Jefferson (A Summary View of the Rights of British America, 1774)

Cecil Bothwell  
@cecilbothwell  
828-713-8840

<city facilities naming policy.pdf>

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@gmail.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2017 5:23 PM  
**To:** Gary Jackson  
**Cc:** Esther Manheimer;Cathy Ball;councilgroup  
**Subject:** Re: RFP for design on Haywood

Meanwhile, as indicated by the park effort recommended by Mayor Manheimer, I think we need to immediately energize multiple efforts in St.Lawrence Green.

If Portland, Oregon could host 162 events last summer, why can't we do the same? Why are we reluctant to have exciting things happen on this property?

What, really, is the reluctance beyond some other goal of selling our City property?

-c

On Mar 31, 2017, at 8:57 AM, Gary Jackson <[GJackson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:GJackson@ashevillenc.gov)> wrote:

We will work it in that way. Thanks for the direction!

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 30, 2017, at 2:28 PM, Esther Manheimer <[esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com](mailto:esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com)> wrote:

Gary, your suggested process below, first to PED and then to Council, looks like a good one.

On Mar 30, 2017, at 1:08 PM, Cecil Bothwell <[cecilbothwell@gmail.com](mailto:cecilbothwell@gmail.com)> wrote:

makes sense to me if the RFP is as described in this thread.  
thanks  
-c

On Mar 30, 2017, at 12:02 PM, Gary Jackson  
<[GJackson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:GJackson@ashevillenc.gov)> wrote:

Absolutely. My preference too. A month for turnaround would be minimum. Given complexity and workloads, 6-8 weeks is more realistic.

**From:** Gordon Smith  
[<mailto:gordonsmith@avlcouncil.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 11:59 AM  
**To:** Gary Jackson <[GJackson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:GJackson@ashevillenc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Cathy Ball <[cball@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:cball@ashevillenc.gov)>; councilgroup  
<[AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RFP for design on Haywood

Thanks, Gary. It would be my preference to move more rapidly.

Gordon

On Thu, Mar 30, 2017 at 11:22 AM, Gary Jackson <[GJackson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:GJackson@ashevillenc.gov)> wrote:

Cathy - Thanks for the explanation of what we typically do with RFPs.

Esther - This answers the question about what we typically do unless otherwise directed by action of Council. The key thing to remember here is that staff would, in the next month or two, would be preparing a request for proposals from design and engineering professionals. The request will be for submittals indicating their qualifications and track record of experience to perform the work, as outlined in the documents submitted to Council by the Council appointed task force. The purpose of the RFP process would be to find the best design professionals and firm(s). As with the Comprehensive Plan consultant RFP, the ultimate decision to accept the selection and authorize the contract for services would be made by Council action. This would be months from now. I presume the staff recommendation of the selected firm(s) would make a prelim stop at PED on way to regular agenda.

We have not planned on it but if you wish to add to the typical staff driven process, I concur with Cathy's suggestion for the review to occur at PED prior to full Council presentation. This extra step of policy review, could be intended to confirm staff's plan to structure the RFP - the scope of services, including infrastructure study, design work and expected leadership with community engagement (charette for example).

Gary

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Cathy Ball  
<[cball@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:cball@ashevillenc.gov)>  
**Date:** March 30, 2017 at 10:39:42 AM EDT  
**To:** Gary Jackson



<[GJackson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:GJackson@ashevillenc.gov)>

**Subject: RE: RFP for design on Haywood**

Gary,

I would note that we typically do not take the RFP back to Council but we have in some cases taken the scope of work to Council or committee for review. We did this in the RFP for the developer of the Park Maintenance property. I am not aware that we have ever informally given it to each member for independent review. This could be a real challenge to resolve the various input on the scope.

I would recommend that if we go get Council input we go to PED and then to full Council. I think we would need clear direction on the scope. (The Mayor's option #3)

Thanks for letting me provide input.

Cathy

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**From:** Gary Jackson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 6:14 PM  
**To:** Cathy Ball <[cball@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:cball@ashevillenc.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: RFP for design on Haywood

Suggest a response please.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Esther Manheimer  
<[esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com](mailto:esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com)>  
**Date:** March 29, 2017 at 4:15:13 PM EDT  
**To:** Gary Jackson  
<[GJackson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:GJackson@ashevillenc.gov)>  
**Subject: Re: RFP**

**for design on  
Haywood**

What's our normal  
protocol for rfps?

On Mar 29, 2017, at  
3:03 PM, Gary  
Jackson

<[GJackson@asheville  
enc.gov](mailto:GJackson@asheville.nc.gov)> wrote:

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## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Norman C Wussow <mnpopi@charter.net> on behalf of Norman C Wussow  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 4:48 PM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** St Lawrence Green

GREEN SPACE ONLY, PLEASE!

There are lots of other places for commercial interests!

Norman Wussow  
4 Mayflower Drive  
Asheville 28804

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Ann McMartin <AnnMcMartin@hotmail.com> on behalf of Ann McMartin  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 3:08 PM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** St Lawrence Green Space

Good Afternoon City Council Members,

I am contacting you today to ask that you design the St. Lawrence vacant space into a Green Space for all of Asheville to enjoy! With so much building downtown it might be nice to have a place where people can go and relax, meet friends, and connect with nature. Downtown is becoming one big massive cement and pavement mass and we need some trees and grass to balance all the recent development. I urge you to vote to make this space a Green space.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely  
Ann McMartin

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Bonnie Cooper <bonniecooperphotography@yahoo.com> on behalf of Bonnie Cooper  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** Park Space

Please maintain the area around St. Lawrence Church as green space/park space for all of Asheville.  
Thank you,  
Bonnie Cooper

Sent from my iPhone

## Ben Fulmer

---

**From:** DrMaxFrontOffice <drmaxchiro@bellsouth.net> on behalf of DrMaxFrontOffice  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 8:35 PM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** Public Park Space in Asheville

To the Asheville City Council,

I wish to register my opinion as a 20-year resident of Asheville and a past resident of places dealing with rapid business/tourist development. I have also lived on Manhattan and can attest to the vital importance of parks in enhancing the quality of life for residents and attractiveness for visitors. A city like ours will not thrive long-term laid out like a shopping mall, with businesses crowding shoulder to shoulder and a lack of green space and sky. We should take a cue from the success of the Biltmore Property which is enjoyed as much for the gardens as the house.

I am in favor of the City creating a park in the area by the St Lawrence church.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Max Rouslin  
81 Sheridan Rd.  
Asheville 03



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** BellaSharpe <starpillows4u@yahoo.com> on behalf of BellaSharpe  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 6:09 PM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** st. lawrence park

Hello City Council Member

Truly it is time to allow breathing space in downtown Asheville. The tall and empty hotels have blocked the western mountain views.

Do we really need yet another hotel with 50% combined occupancy year round.? I often visit your meetings and always ask myself "where is the vision"?

Asheville HAS the potential to become a futuristic, progressive, clean and self sufficient city, please allow some savings grace to all of the people who live and move here. Vote Green

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Maggie Burleson <MBurleson@ashevillenc.gov> on behalf of Maggie Burleson  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 4:41 PM  
**To:** Brian Haynes; Cecil Bothwell; Esther Manheimer; Gordon Smith; Gwen Wisler; Julie Mayfield; Keith Young  
**Cc:** Todd Okolichany; Gary Jackson; Cathy Ball; Paul Fetherston  
**Subject:** Haywood Advisory Team: Final Report (unformatted)

Mayor and Council, Mr. Joyell won't have the final report with graphics ready until after tomorrow night's meeting. The Advisory Team signed off on the report last week, and a volunteer has just begin formatting it. He asked that this be shared with Council so that you would at least have the text available.

Thanks,  
Maggie



**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Neil Barrett <nemacbar@att.net> on behalf of Neil Barrett  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 3:59 PM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Cc:** AshevilleCAN@googlegroups.com  
**Subject:** Re: Basilica of St. Lawrence

If New York City was able to allow for a large green space, otherwise known as Central Park, in the center of Manhattan, why is it that the city of Asheville, can't commit to keeping the area in front of the Basilica "green". A park in that area would add tremendously to the character of the city and bring a certain natural beauty that would far outshine more buildings for various retail purposes.

Neil M. Barrett  
nemacbar@att.net

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Judith Bicking <graphics@bicking.com> on behalf of Judith Bicking  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 3:13 PM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** St. Lawrence area

**I live in Asheville and think that the city-owned property in the St. Lawrence area should become green space.**

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** deemare@juno.com  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 2:28 PM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** Green Space

Hi,

I'm really concerned about what's going to happen with that little space near St. Lawrence basilica. We really need a green space there where people can sit and relax around trees and plants to get away from the hubbub of the city. If it gets turned into business space, then we'll never have the opportunity to have a green space there again. Green spaces in cities are really important, and the larger Asheville grows, the more we'll need green spaces. It would be like a little jewel showing off another of Asheville's jewels (St. Lawrence basilica). Please turn this site into a green space for the people and to add to the beauty of our special city.

Thanks,  
Ruth Stambaugh

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Dancewater <dancewater2@gmail.com> on behalf of Dancewater  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 12:54 PM  
**To:** Gordon Smith; Asheville City Council  
**Subject:** Re: Green space

Gordon -

the people of this city has made their position clear on what should be done with this area, and no matter how many task forces you organize and fund, that position is not going to change.

We can try to put people in office who actually listen to us. That is what we tried in the past, and I think it will be successful again in the future.

Susan Oehler

On Mon, Mar 27, 2017 at 12:22 PM, Gordon Smith <[gordonsmith@avlcouncil.com](mailto:gordonsmith@avlcouncil.com)> wrote:

Thanks for writing in, Susan. The good news is that City Council unanimously approved a Task Force to identify how to move forward with the site. That Task Force is returning its findings, after a year-long intensive examination of the site and its possibilities/challenges. It's my understanding that the Task Force is recommending a combination of passive civic space, active civic space, and some commercial elements. I look forward to hearing their presentation on Tuesday.

Thanks for your input,

Gordon Smith

On Mon, Mar 27, 2017 at 12:06 PM, Dancewater <[dancewater2@gmail.com](mailto:dancewater2@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear city council:

I would like to see a park across from St. Lawrence. And if you decide to do something else, I think you will have a hard time getting reelected.

Thank you for your time,  
Susan Oehler  
Asheville NC

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Jeanine Maland <jeanine.maland@gmail.com> on behalf of Jeanine Maland  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:35 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** St Lawrence area - your vote

I urge each of you to do the right thing for our Asheville citizens and conscious community.

Many of us view your critical city council vote as a tiny step for Life! on this fragile planet.

Vote for a fully Green Space for the St. Lawrence area. Stiffen-up your spines.

Vote for a beautiful view for the people of St. Lawrence.

Vote for Asheville residents & tourists sitting on the bench talking, discussing, reading, thinking...

Vote for the chatter of the birds; for the blooming flowers; for the variety of new life.

Thanks to each of you for your important service to Asheville - to our present and to our future.

And much gratitude to those of you who have consistently listened to and supported our passion for keeping the St. Lawrence area a FULLY GREEN SPACE.

Sincerely,  
Jeanine Maland  
Asheville, NC

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Shinesign@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:34 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** St Lawrence area

Please do not put big business before residents. WE live here and want that space to be used for us, a green space for the population of Asheville as well as the tourist industry to enjoy.

Thank you  
Shiner Antiorio

We are Divine enough to ask and we are Important enough to Receive  
Wayne Dyer

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Schmidt Family <fortunesmiled4@gmail.com> on behalf of Schmidt Family  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:30 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** I believe the city-owned property in the St. Lawrence area should become green space

Dear City Council,  
That area will be hopelessly congested if a hotel is built there. A park is much more valuable in many ways.  
We have enough hotels, we want a park.

David Schmidt  
73 Evelyn place 28801

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** healing@billwalz.com  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 9:21 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** St Lawrence Greenspace

**If NYC can allow trillions of dollars of potential commercial property and tax revenue to be devoted to Central Park, the same with San Francisco and Golden Gate Park, with Chicago and Lincoln Park, Boston and the Charles River Park - and the list goes on, city after city recognizing the value of green space, supposedly higher consciousness Asheville can give up one block to the aesthetics and refinement of a small park sitting opposite the beauty of St. Lawrence. Do the will of the people not the developers!**

**Bill Walz  
Asheville**



**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Keldwyn Teves <keldwyn@bellsouth.net> on behalf of Keldwyn Teves  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** St Lawrence property

Please please please listen to the thousands of residents who have let you know over and over and over that we need and want this to be a Green space.

Our downtown is overdeveloped with hotels, stores, etc.

Last summer I tried to go downtown on a Tuesday at 1:30 to watch a film at the Fine Arts and there was not one parking space in the entire downtown area. I drove around for over 35 minutes, and finally had to come home.

Our city is no longer resident friendly during tourist season. Are we ONLY a tourist destination or do those who live here deserve some amenities we can use and enjoy? Is developer money the only thing you listen to and care about? Please listen to us. Give us this very small parcel of land for beauty and respite from the towering hotels.

With hope  
Keldwyn Teves

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Bev O <theschlag@aol.com> on behalf of Bev O  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 8:54 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** GREENSPACE

Please do not waste anymore time deciding this. The city NEEDS to provide green space downtown and the St. Lawrence property is the perfect place for it. DO THE RIGHT THING NOW!  
Truly,  
Bev Ohler

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** Cynthia Heil <cheil17@att.net> on behalf of Cynthia Heil  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 8:46 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** Green space at St. Lawrence

Please consider making Asheville a city for its residents, not developers, chain businesses, and tourists. They all have quite a chunk of our city now. We would like to keep what little is left for the people who live here, people who have a vested interest in our city, people who VOTE here.

Please consider the downtown residents who want a green space, maybe even a place where they can have a community garden.

Please give the residents a park at the subj. location.

Cindy Heil

Asheville, NC 28806

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** DONALD HARLAND <dharland@bellsouth.net> on behalf of DONALD HARLAND  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 8:41 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** St Lawrence Park

The City owned property in St. Lawrence should be green space. We do not need more buildings, hotels, or retail outlets in this area.

Donald Harland  
Candler, NC

**Ben Fulmer**

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**From:** juli Fleur <jewelfleur@hotmail.com> on behalf of juli Fleur  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 8:38 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** RE St Lawrence Green

To whom it may concern,

I believe the green area should be reserved only for a park. We have enough building happening in Asheville - more green space is always a good thing. Spaces to sit and reflect and take a rest whether you are a tourist or local are needed - sometimes its hard to decide where to eat and you need a place to sit and think about it. Or maybe your cranky kid needs to run free for a bit. Im sure there are many good reasons to create a green space in that spot.

Juli Hoyer

Asheville Resident

Sent from [Outlook](#)

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Claire S <claire28803@yahoo.com> on behalf of Claire S  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 8:20 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** Green Space Attn: J. Mayfield

*Now that we have so many new hotels, surely there is enough tax revenue to create green space across from St Lawrence. Please don't let the citizens of Asheville down on this.*

*Also I understand that Julie Mayfield is the council member most involved with directing funds collected from the hotel tax. PLEASE devote some of these funds to fixing the sidewalks in Biltmore Village used everyday by visitors to our city. It is only a matter of time before the city is sued for these unsafe walkways.*

*Thank you,  
C.V. Schnedler*

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** maryahecker@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 8:18 AM  
**To:** AshevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
**Subject:** Please place only a park at St Lawrence Green

Please show Western North Carolina that our local governments care more about the physical and emotional well being of its people than real estate greed.

I was born in NC 55 years ago and I firmly believe that real estate greed has about destroyed Asheville, Hendersonville and the natural environment of NC. If

Asheville is a GREEN city it does not need business at this site. If its officials were forward thinking they would recognize that a GREEN SPACE on this site

will make it more attractive to tourist, residents, and business. Have they heard that some of the most attractive, expensive built communities now include

a real organic garden in the middle. St Louis has several worthwhile parks and a Botanical Garden. Asheville has a minuscule Botanical Garden and small

city parks. The Green Space will also allow one of Asheville's most beautiful historic landmarks to be highlighted. People can go to other cities and states to

shop at the type of businesses or live in the condos some want to put on this site. If you will allow it to exist only in

Asheville will people be able to relax and

meditate in St. Lawrence Green.

Please Give Western NC this GREEN SPACE.

Mary A. G. Hecker

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Julie <mountainsbeach@gmail.com> on behalf of Julie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 3:25 PM  
**To:** esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com; gwenwisler@avlcouncil.com;mailto:Cecil Bothwell;brianhaynes@avlcouncil.com;juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com;gordonsmith@avlcouncil.com;keithyoung@avlcouncil.com  
**Subject:** Julie Nelson Haywood St. Advisory Task Force  
**Attachments:** March 12 questions to Chris.docx

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Council Members,

I am forwarding this email with attachment to each of you as an example of what I have personally had to do for 9 months to get to the truth of what is going on in these task force meetings (and maybe more importantly) in between the meetings. Chris Joyell has not responded to my questions as of the writing of this email.

The questions I am asking Chris are not because I have missed a meeting or failed to take notes at a meeting, it is because this task force seems to be operating on its own and I am trying to find out why.

I have not missed one task force meeting in 9 months. In addition to task force meetings, we had subcommittee meetings- in which I missed one. I attended both City Council meetings in which we presented the temporary installation ideas and the recent public presentation of the draft vision on 3/8/17. I have notes from every meeting, emails, photos, tape recordings, etc. that document my deep concerns about the processes that have led to the "draft" vision and ultimately will lead to what will be presented to you on 3/28/17 as the "final" vision.

I have nothing personal to gain financially, politically or otherwise from serving on this task force and I serve on no other boards or commissions. I am simply an Asheville resident who has given freely and generously of my time as a volunteer on behalf of the greater good of the residents of Asheville and have been burnt in the process.

Let's not let Councilman Bothell's letter detract from the real story here. I, as a volunteer on a council appointed citizen task force, during meetings, have been publicly bullied, belittled and silenced with no intervention from the paid group facilitator Chris Joyell or chairman Andrew Fletcher.



Dean Pistor calls me a bitch during a meeting and he explains it away by calling it “ a poor choice of words for a friendly exchange...” Respect for another task force member is not demonstrated in this way and it was in no way friendly.

In addition, the minutes of the meetings never reflected these outbursts of Dean or other members of the task force. When I phoned Chris to ask him why, he simply stated that he “did not want to throw anyone under the bus.”

Although I was at all times in favor of a park- (as the representative for the Friends of St. Lawrence Green and the 5,000 residents who signed petitions asking council to preserve the city owned property for future use as a public green space and opposing the sale of the property for commercial development), if the majority of citizen input reflected differently I was committed to delivering those findings. That's what a democratic process looks like, and it's NOT what happened... Findings were altered or discarded, words were added, input totals & tabulations misrepresented, the city online survey dismissed, meeting minutes left out what happened, were re-worded in a positive light or totally misquoted was actually said, etc.

Task Force members, supported by facilitator Chris Joyell, feel empowered to come to their own decision and NOT act as a representative group. The charts & bubble diagram shown in the public presentation on 3/8/17 were not created by consensus of the task force members nor did they accurately depict publicly derived input.

It saddens me to have to watch this citizen task force process being hijacked. Nine months of time and effort, in my estimation, wasted.

It is my duty to inform, only you can do something about it and it is my sincere hope that you do so.

Sincerely,

Julie Nelson

Asheville City Resident

Haywood Advisory Task Force Member

Attachments area

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Sarah Terwilliger <sterwilliger@ashevillenc.gov> on behalf of Sarah Terwilliger  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:26 AM  
**To:** Maggie Burleson; Julie Mayfield  
**Cc:** Gary Jackson  
**Subject:** RE: Council minutes  
**Attachments:** Haywood Mins 3.8 & 12.8.pdf

Attached please find the 3/8/16 and 12/8/15 minutes regarding the Haywood Street property. The 3/8 mins reference a 12/12/15 meeting, however I could not find these mins- I believe it should be the 12/8/15 meeting, attached here.

Thank you,

Sarah Terwilliger  
Deputy City Clerk  
City of Asheville  
(828) 259-5839

-----Original Message-----

From: Maggie Burleson  
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 6:16 AM  
To: Julie Mayfield <juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com>  
Cc: Gary Jackson <GJackson@ashevillenc.gov>; Sarah Terwilliger <sterwilliger@ashevillenc.gov>  
Subject: Re: Council minutes

Julie, problem with our website right now. Should be fixed by early next week. Sarah can send you what you need.  
Thanks, Maggie

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 9, 2017, at 9:51 PM, "juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com" <juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com> wrote:

>

> I can't find the minutes from our December 2015 meeting or march meeting when we discussed the Haywood street property and the stakeholder process. In fact, I can't find our 2015 or 2016 agendas and minutes online at all. They aren't in the archives and I get an error message when I search. Am I doing something wrong or looking in the wrong place?

>

> In any event, can you send the minutes for the March meeting when we passed the resolution creating the task force and whichever other earlier meeting in December or January when we discussed the path forward on it?

>

> Thanks

> Julie

>

> Sent from my iPad

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Sandra Brooks <sandra@mymosaicrealty.com> on behalf of Sandra Brooks  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:35 AM  
**To:** juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com  
**Subject:** Pit of Despair

How long will you do studies and ask for opinions about this? It has been clear for years that most residents want a simple green park to break up the starkness of downtown concrete and provide a safe buffer for St. Lawrence. Please do what is right and vote this way.

**Sandra Brooks**  
, Asheville Voter

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## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Duncan McPherson <duncan@samselarchitects.com> on behalf of Duncan McPherson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2016 5:42 PM  
**To:** Fisher, Mindy;Gray, Lael;Habron, Geoffery;Marcus, Sonia;Mayfield, Julie;McDade, Keith, (AVL);Noor, John;O'Conner, Josh;Pittman, Lawrence;Weaver, Amber  
**Subject:** Basilica  
**Attachments:** 11.02.15\_Haywood\_Draft\_Principles.pdf

SACEE - Asheville Design Center will be hosting public input for the development of the property across from the Basilica every weekday in June from 11am-2pm in the first floor of the BB&T building. They will also be hosting all-day open houses on June 23 & 28.

Background information packet is attached.

--

**Duncan McPherson, AIA, LEED AP**  
Principal Architect



[www.samselarchitects.com](http://www.samselarchitects.com)

60 Biltmore Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801  
828 253 1124

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Julie Mayfield <juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Julie Mayfield  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2016 11:09 PM  
**To:** 'mary hugenschmidt'  
**Subject:** RE: At-Large Nomination, Asheville Design Center's Committee, Haywood Street Property

Thank you Mary.

Julie

**From:** mary hugenschmidt [mailto:hugenmb@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 6, 2016 5:41 PM  
**To:** Esther Manheimer <esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com>; Gwen Wisler <gwenwisler@avlcouncil.com>; Gordon Smith <gordonsmith@avlcouncil.com>; Keith Young <keithyoung@avlcouncil.com>; Brian Haynes <brianhaynes@avlcouncil.com>; Julie Mayfield <juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com>; Cecil Bothwell <cecil@braveulysses.com>  
**Subject:** At-Large Nomination, Asheville Design Center's Committee, Haywood Street Property

My husband and I have been residents of Asheville for over forty years and clearly remember the dismal, lifeless downtown area with its empty, boarded up buildings. It had few public spaces, and no places with trees or plants or spots for people to sit and enjoy the city. As urban trends turn to accessibility, healthy environments, the function of natural elements in city design, and respect for historic places, incorporating green areas has risen in importance to both a city's health and to its appeal.

I am also a volunteer with the Buncombe County Extension Master Gardeners. **Gary Anderson**, one of my fellow volunteers has applied to be an at-large member on the committee led by ADC to determine the use for the vacant property on Haywood Street across from the Civic Center and the historic St. Lawrence Basilica. As you can see from his application, Gary has a significant amount of experience working with public projects. I would like to strongly encourage you to vote for him as one of the at-large members. The bullets below describe how both the city of Asheville and the Extension Master Gardeners can benefit from Gary's contributions to the committee.

**The city of Asheville could benefit from participation of EMGVs in the following ways:**

1. The creation of a vibrant green space would not only reflect the beauty of the city but would provide residents and visitors a living interaction site maintained by trained volunteers sharing research-based gardening knowledge and information through four seasons.
2. There are over 100 Buncombe County Master Gardeners with decades of proven commitment willing to use their varied backgrounds and education to design, plant, and maintain a downtown garden site.
3. Gardens that combine horticulture with art, education, and design that would be available to residents and visitors of all ages and all backgrounds, integrating and showcasing the efforts of local entities in the arts, such as museums, libraries, the symphony, schools, etc.

**The Extension Master Gardener Volunteers would benefit in the following ways:**

1. A way to further the Master Garden mission which is to provide research-based urban horticulture education and gardening support to city and county residents.
2. A demonstration garden geographically convenient in a downtown location for many master gardeners to support.
3. An opportunity to interact with local gardeners and gain insights on their current gardening questions in order to adapt the EMG programs in a way that best serves the community.
4. Increasing the reach and visibility of the EMG program by working with arts councils, museums, landscape architects and local artists.

Thank you for your consideration of **Gary Anderson** as an **at-large member of the Asheville Design Center's Committee** on ways to develop the Haywood Street Property.

Mary Hugenschmidt  
437 Beaverdam Road  
Asheville, 28804

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** mary hugenschmidt <hugenmb@gmail.com> on behalf of mary hugenschmidt  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 5:41 PM  
**To:** Esther Manheimer;Gwen Wisler;Gordon Smith;Keith Young;Brian Haynes;Julie Mayfield;Cecil Bothwell  
**Subject:** At-Large Nomination, Asheville Design Center's Committee, Haywood Street Property

My husband and I have been residents of Asheville for over forty years and clearly remember the dismal, lifeless downtown area with its empty, boarded up buildings. It had few public spaces, and no places with trees or plants or spots for people to sit and enjoy the city. As urban trends turn to accessibility, healthy environments, the function of natural elements in city design, and respect for historic places ,incorporating green areas has risen in importance to both a city's health and to its appeal.

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**The city of Asheville could benefit from participation of EMGVs in the following ways:**

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1. A way to further the Master Garden mission which is to provide research-based urban horticulture education and gardening support to city and county residents.
2. A demonstration garden geographically convenient in a downtown location for many master gardeners to support.
3. An opportunity to interact with local gardeners and gain insights on their current gardening questions in order to adapt the EMG programs in a way that best serves the community.
4. Increasing the reach and visibility of the EMG program by working with arts councils, museums, landscape architects and local artists.

Thank you for your consideration of **Gary Anderson** as an **at-large member of the Asheville Design Center's Committee** on ways to develop the Haywood Street Property.

Mary Hugenschmidt  
437 Beaverdam Road  
Asheville, 28804

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Gwen Wisler AVL City Council <gwenwisler@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Gwen Wisler AVL City Council  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2016 8:35 AM  
**To:** Maggie Burleson  
**Cc:** Esther Manheimer; Brian Haynes; Cecil Bothwell - Email; Gordon Smith; Julie Mayfield; Keith Young  
**Subject:** Re: Haywood Street Advisory Team Questions for Application

Yes. That's right.  
Gwen

On Mar 15, 2016, at 8:27 AM, Maggie Burleson <[MBurleson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:MBurleson@ashevillenc.gov)> wrote:

If I'm understanding Gwen, I could re-word to say "What relationship, if any, do you have with any of the other **Haywood Street** Advisory Team groups?"

Okay?  
Thanks,  
Maggie

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**From:** Esther Manheimer [<mailto:esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 14, 2016 7:14 PM  
**To:** Gwen Wisler; Maggie Burleson; Brian Haynes; Cecil Bothwell - Email; Gordon Smith; Julie Mayfield; Keith Young  
**Subject:** RE: Haywood Street Advisory Team Questions for Application

Do you mean other advisory committees or commissioners? Like downtown commission?

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**From:** Gwen Wisler [<mailto:gwenwisler@avlcouncil.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 14, 2016 4:30 PM  
**To:** Maggie Burleson <[MBurleson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:MBurleson@ashevillenc.gov)>; Brian Haynes <[brianhaynes@avlcouncil.com](mailto:brianhaynes@avlcouncil.com)>; Cecil Bothwell - Email <[cecil@braveulysses.com](mailto:cecil@braveulysses.com)>; Esther Manheimer <[esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com](mailto:esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com)>; Gordon Smith <[gordonsmith@avlcouncil.com](mailto:gordonsmith@avlcouncil.com)>; Julie Mayfield <[juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com](mailto:juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com)>; Keith Young <[KeithYoung@avlcouncil.com](mailto:KeithYoung@avlcouncil.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Haywood Street Advisory Team Questions for Application

What relationship, if any, do you have with any of the other Advisory Team groups?  
(I would like to make sure we don't duplicate representation on the Advisory Team.)  
Thanks,  
Gwen

On 3/14/2016 3:59 PM, Maggie Burleson wrote:

Todd crafted the three questions below to be included with the applications. Please let me know ASAP if these are okay. I need to begin advertising tomorrow (March 15) – with application deadline on April 6 at 5.

Thanks,  
Maggie

- a. What do you want the Advisory Team to achieve for this project?
- b. Please describe your experience with conducting or participating in a community visioning process, master plan or other related project. What was the outcome?
- c. As a member of the Advisory Team it is expected that you will be fair and impartial during the community visioning process. Please indicate whether or not you have any conflicts with this statement.

Below will be the statement I use to solicit applications:

### **1. Scope of the Project:**

The City of Asheville will be undertaking a community visioning process for city-owned properties at 68-76 Haywood Street and 33-37 Page Avenue in downtown Asheville. The city has retained the Asheville Design Center (ADC) for this effort, who will work with city staff to facilitate the community visioning process. The outcomes will be designed to inform future actions on the subject sites and surrounding rights-of-way (the "Study Area"), which may include a future design competition and/or a Request for Qualifications/Proposals. The project's scope will include strategic planning and coordination with an Advisory Team, key stakeholders, as well as the broadest community interests who express a desire to participate in an open, democratic "town hall" process of consensus building. Engagement with local stakeholders and property owners will inform a long-term vision for the properties, while also serving to identify opportunities for temporary installations to enliven the space now and suggest appropriate permanent uses on the site over time.

The city envisions that the final deliverable of this project will include a full exploration of site constraints and opportunities and publicly-informed expectations, priorities and considerations for the Study Area. The document will be a culmination of community ideas and strategic planning for the Study Area that will help to inform future actions, rather than determine a definitive design for the Study Area.

### **2. Scope of the Advisory Team:**

ADC will work with city staff to form an Advisory Team for the public visioning process and implementation plan. The Advisory Team will have representation, at minimum, from the following organizations (in no particular order), plus three at-large members:

- City of Asheville Recreation Board;
- Asheville Downtown Commission;
- Historic Resources Commission of Asheville & Buncombe County (HRC);
- Public Art and Cultural Commission (PACC);
- Buncombe County liaison;
- Asheville Downtown Association;
- The Basilica of St. Lawrence;
- Friends of St. Lawrence Green;
- Grove Arcade;
- Battery Park Hotel/Vanderbilt Apartments representative(s);
- Downtown Asheville Residential Neighbors (DARN);
- Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce;



- U.S. Cellular Center; and,
- Asheville Buskers Collective.

The Advisory Team will be involved throughout the community visioning process. The scope of the Advisory Team includes, at a minimum, the following tasks:

- Kick-off meeting with ADC and city staff on the project
- Review of site analyses of the Study Area, as submitted by ADC
- Workshop with the Advisory Team to explore creative ideas for implementation and management of vibrant civic spaces
- A follow-up session with the Advisory Team to explore techniques and best practices for the public visioning workshops
- Input and attendance from the Advisory Team regarding two public workshops
- Follow-up presentation from ADC to Advisory Team to report on the input received from the workshops
- Review of final documentation, as submitted by ADC, that will include a full exploration of site constraints and opportunities and publicly-informed expectations, priorities and considerations for the Study Area, including presentation of the draft visioning document to the Advisory Team by ADC

Maggie Burleson, MMC, NCCMC  
 City Clerk  
 City of Asheville  
 Post Office Box 7148  
 Asheville, N.C. 28802  
 828-259-5601 (phone)  
 828-259-5499 (fax)

## Ben Fulmer

---

**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@gmail.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 27, 2016 2:38 PM  
**To:** Michael Lewis  
**Cc:** councilgroup  
**Subject:** Re: "The Park"

Hi Mike,

I figure different folks might have different facts. Seems to happen a lot these days, at least on the national and state levels.

A while back the City Economic Development Department estimated that a potential big structure there would generate \$60,000 a year in property taxes.

An alternative view is that parks always increase property values in surrounding parcels. So it is arguable that the tax benefits even out, though in hard to quantify ways.

(A further alternative is that the immediate neighbors of the Haywood property include significant nonprofit/tax exempt properties. But taxing churches is not on the City's immediate agenda.)

The best way other cities prevent what you call "a mess" is to activate the spaces. (The national solution is, obviously, to raise the minimum wage and enact a national infrastructure strategy to put people back to work.) Pritchard is deemed a problem due to several interlocking issues. There isn't anything to "do" there, other than to hang out ... except when there are activities like the drum circle, when pretty much no one out of earshot views as a problem.

It is the closest park to the homeless service providers downtown, and when those facilities are closed during the day their clientele congregate in Pritchard and present a visual "mess" whether or not the people present are actually a "problem."

St. Lawrence Green (or whatever name) would be similarly positioned in terms of geography.

One solution to the "mess" issue is to have the space "activated" with installations and activities that draw more "regular" citizens into the mix.

Another is to relocate homeless services out of downtown. (I note that the reason our homeless services are where they are is because Downtown was depressed and cheap. Now it is upscale and rising. I would guess that the service providers will move out of downtown as the real estate market offers fiscal incentives to relocate.) The big picture, as mentioned above, is to disrupt the greed economy, raise the minimum wage, fund infrastructure repairs/improvements ... but I'm sure you're voting for Sanders (with me) so that will solve that.

Many of us have worked toward a public space in front of the Civic Center and Basilica for more than a decade. The DTMP appendices suggest that this location is ideal for a public park.

I think we can make something great happen.

Cheers,

-C

> On Jan 27, 2016, at 10:48 AM, Michael Lewis <mlewis6956@charter.net> wrote:

>

> Looks like the debate over what to do with the property across from the basilica is coming to an end. I probably should have brought this up a long time ago, since I have been thinking about it for a while. Like most issues these days, both sides have their arguments regarding what should be done with the property, but neither side seems to have given a well-rounded presentation to support its position.

>

> Some folks want to sell the property to a developer and see the City reap the tax revenue from whatever structure goes up there. The other side wants to see a greenspace put there. However, nobody seems to have offered an estimate of the tax revenue a structure would generate. Likewise, nobody on the other side has offered a plan to keep the proposed greenspace from becoming a mess like Pritchard Park has become.

>

> Without betraying your hand before the vote, can you tell me the facts? Briefly?

>

> Mike

>

> --

> Michael N Lewis

> 48 Gracelyn Rd.

> Asheville, NC 28804

> 828-252-3684

> mlewis6956@charter.net

>

## Ben Fulmer

---

**From:** juliemayfield@avlcouncil.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 10, 2016 4:26 PM  
**To:** cathytscott@main.nc.us  
**Subject:** Re: More thinking about the Ravenscroft Reserve

So his plan is the plan I came up with this past Tuesday and presented to him for consideration. My hope was that bringing the two "park" ideas together might help make them both go. But that doesn't erase the need for the money to be raised to reimburse the city for most of the value of the swap. And the Page Ave property is much more valuable than the Collier property so it only increases what has to be raised.

Believe me, I've thought about this six ways to Sunday and can't figure out how to make it work without the city just accepting that there is no guarantee of payment for the value of the property it's swapping. And that just won't work. We have to have a responsible strategy for acquiring, constructing and maintaining public spaces without diluting resources necessary for other important budget priorities, and that strategy has not emerged in this case.

The businesses on the south slope have said the amount needed is too high and they didn't seem interested in helping raise it, which. Is telling. If it's not important enough for them to put some skin in the game and help, then maybe it's not important enough for the city to preserve. It is a unique piece of property for sure, but private citizens have to be all in on the effort and it doesn't feel like that's happening.

We will see what happens on Tuesday.

Julie

Sent from my iPad

On Jan 10, 2016, at 1:33 PM, [cathytscott@main.nc.us](mailto:cathytscott@main.nc.us) wrote:

hi Julie,  
Thanks for your response! I also heard from Cecil, who shared the following scenario, and I wonder if it seems as feasible to you as it does to him.

"The developers who own the old tree property seem willing to swap it for the decrepit buildings on Pave Ave. next to Captain's Bookshelf, and donate \$100,000 toward development of the park at St. Lawrence Green. While I'm somewhat reluctant to give up those buildings (which are part of the overall properties purchased for a parking deck 10 years ago), and to have new apartments there ... the trade-off and the financial help are significant. Being able to save those old-growth trees is a plus, the \$100,000 is a plus, and so seems pretty good all around."

As far as money to maintain a park/reserve, I think you are a fan of

private/public collaborations, and I wonder if there might be such a possibility here. I don't know the lay of the land in that neighborhood very well, but any chance the breweries and drinking establishments, springing up hourly in that area, would be interested in sporting a tagline, indicating they are a sustaining member of the "Ravenscroft Reserve"? Some clever marketer can surely come up with a slogan about 'Keeping the South Slope Wild'.

Anyway, hope there is some robust discussion on this one, and I do really believe in the benefits of small, pocket parks in an urban setting.

take care,  
Cathy

Hi Cathy - I hope you are well and enjoying the new year. Thanks for letting us know your thoughts on Collier Woods/ Ravenscroft reserve. While everyone would like to see a park there I'm sure, I'm just not sure the stars are aligning to make it happen. I've been working with Inge and Imke to try to make it happen, but it comes down to (as so many things do) money. The city is not prepared to swap or purchase the property on the promise that funds will be raised later to reimburse the city for the purchase price and/or maintain it as a park. It would be several hundred thousand dollars, at a minimum. Given other priorities such as sidewalks, greenways, transit, and affordable housing, I'm not sure it makes sense for the city to invest dollars for this property with no plan or promise for those dollars to come back to the city.

I wish the city had all the money in the world, and I wish there were a way to make it all work. I've spent a lot of time trying to figure it out, but I'm not sure there is a way. I would love for someone to find one.

All the best and hope to see you soon -  
Julie

-----Original Message-----

From: [cathytscott@main.nc.us](mailto:cathytscott@main.nc.us) [<mailto:cathytscott@main.nc.us>]

Sent: Friday, January 8, 2016 10:57 AM

To: [ashevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:ashevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov)

Subject: YES! to the Ravenscroft Reserve

Greetings City Council members, and a happy and fruitful New Year!

I am writing in support of the move to preserve a small yet important stand of old oak trees, part of the South Slope neighborhood.

Although I understand and support the move towards in-fill building within the City of Asheville, I believe there is room for, and great benefit to maintaining what are essentially "pocket parks" within the city limits. This stand of oaks seems like a perfect opportunity to create such a thing.

Many of us feel that it is critical that individuals have some exposure, however brief and curtailed, to the natural world--the world of mosses, grasses, birds and yes, even squirrels--if we are to retain our sense of wonder and appreciation of our planet. This park would provide one such 'stop' in many peoples' busy day.

Sincerely,

Cathy T. Scott

Asheville NC

828 258 8473

\* \* \*

The world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love.

Rev. William Sloan Coffin

Strong people do not need strong leaders.

Ella Baker

\* \* \*

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## Ben Fulmer

---

**From:** cathytscott@main.nc.us  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 10, 2016 1:33 PM  
**To:** Julie Mayfield  
**Subject:** More thinking about the Ravenscroft Reserve

hi Julie,

Thanks for your response! I also heard from Cecil, who shared the following scenario, and I wonder if it seems as feasible to you as it does to him.

"The developers who own the old tree property seem willing to swap it for the decrepit buildings on Pave Ave. next to Captain's Bookshelf, and donate \$100,000 toward development of the park at St. Lawrence Green. While I'm somewhat reluctant to give up those buildings (which are part of the overall properties purchased for a parking deck 10 years ago), and to have new apartments there ... the trade-off and the financial help are significant. Being able to save those old-growth trees is a plus, the \$100,000 is a plus, and so seems pretty good all around."

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Anyway, hope there is some robust discussion on this one, and I do really believe in the benefits of small, pocket parks in an urban setting.

take care,  
Cathy

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> a way to make it all work. I've spent a lot of time trying to figure it  
> out, but I'm not sure there is a way. I would love for someone to find  
> one.



>  
> All the best and hope to see you soon - Julie  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: cathytscott@main.nc.us [mailto:cathytscott@main.nc.us]  
> Sent: Friday, January 8, 2016 10:57 AM  
> To: ashevilleNCCouncil@ashevillenc.gov  
> Subject: YES! to the Ravenscroft Reserve  
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> Cathy T. Scott  
> Asheville NC  
> 828 258 8473

>  
>  
> \* \* \*  
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>  
> Rev. William Sloan Coffin  
>  
> Strong people do not need strong leaders.

>  
> Ella Baker

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\* \* \*

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Rev. William Sloan Coffin

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Ella Baker

## Ben Fulmer

---

**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecil@braveulysses.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 09, 2015 10:53 AM  
**To:** Jillian Wolf  
**Cc:** Randal Pfleger (via Google Docs); Mary Lou Kempf; councilgroup  
**Subject:** Re: St. Lawrence Green letter to the City

Hi Jillian,

I'm copying this to all members of City Council.

The process for decision making about St. Lawrence Green has been handed to the Planning and Economic Development Committee (Councilwoman Gwen Wisler - chair).

Since that just occurred last night, no schedule for consideration will be available immediately.

Thanks for the input. The ABFPC is a clear stakeholder in this discussion.

-C

On Dec 9, 2015, at 10:48 AM, \jillian \wolf <[bisoncrow@gmail.com](mailto:bisoncrow@gmail.com)> wrote:

Cecil, below is a brief letter we would like to offer up in support of edibles on the St Lawrence land plot. Where do we send it, and what is the deadline?

Jillian Wolf  
ABFPC Land Use Cluster

Land Use Cluster of the Asheville Buncombe Food Policy Council

The Land Use Cluster, and the Asheville Buncombe Food Policy Council, is committed to advocating, supporting, and implementing policy to support food systems infrastructure in Asheville and Buncombe County. We foresee vibrant food system infrastructure (production, processing, and distribution facilities) throughout the city and county **on both private and public land**. We recognize that there are many competing possible land uses for the current parking and storage lot across from the Basilica and US Cellular Center. We urge decision-makers and stakeholders to consider the feasibility of including demonstration and production gardens, as well as small fruit plantings on the site, to be designed, installed, and maintained through collaborative community, volunteer, business, and COA efforts.