

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Friday, July 07, 2017 8:05 AM  
**To:** Roger Smith  
**Subject:** Re: Battery Park Residents' Committee Petition Signatures

Hi Roger,

I just took a look at the [stlawrencegreen.org](http://stlawrencegreen.org) page and see that no mention of the multiple petitions is made. Will tell the responsible person that we ought to add it.

I agree that Council should act to make this a great park - unfortunately we only have 3 votes for that at present. This year's election will determine the result of a dozen years of effort.

We have formed the People's Park Foundation to start programming 68 Haywood St. in August. It will be great to finally have some public events happening there.

Thanks for weighing in (again) and for your efforts some years ago.

-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

On Jul 7, 2017, at 6:02 AM, Roger Smith <[rogersmithone@gmail.com](mailto:rogersmithone@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Councilman Bothwell,

You will recall our contact in 2005 when I sat in your office at Mountain Express to discuss the Battery Park Residents' Committee petition drive to advocate for a Civic Plaza at Battle Square instead of a 650-space parking deck that had been planned. You will also recall our contact in 2012 when I presented you with a copy of the 368 petition pages of signatures our committee collected to defeat that plan.

I write to request that you provide a written statement of your receipt of the Petition Signatures (more than 3,300 of them) that the Residents' Committee collected by action it initiated to defeat the City's plan for that monstrous deck, and which collective action helped to accomplish.

In review of the online site for "St. Lawrence Green," I noted that there is no acknowledgment whatsoever of the tremendous effort our Residents' Committee took to initiate the drive that brought defeat for the City's misguided plan and the opportunity it created for the vision of an appropriate civic plaza our campaign sought to bring about. In my view, that civic plaza should be named "The Thomas Wolfe Civic Plaza and Gardens." (It does not reflect well upon our City if it ignores its duty to recognize a native son and literary genius from the Start of North Carolina).

I have written to Douglas Hecker at Clemson University to acknowledge the excellent contribution he and his students have made to forward the vision our Committee initiated for such a plaza. "I write to request that you schedule some time for a meeting in the near future to share some thoughts about aspects I have concern for that include the possibility of a public/private campaign to expand your design to include an underground thoroughway for traffic so that a surface avenue can be eliminated at the site, which would make the design you have presented [with the large fountain opposite the Basilica's front doors that also aligns with the Wolfe Auditorium's entrance] a choice plan going forward. If the plan is approached boldly, it might encourage the Basilica and the Archdiocese in Charlotte to engage creatively with public and private entities so that the parking area behind Battle Park Apartments could become an integrated part of a grand plan [for multi-level parking below and above the surface], a design that could attract international appreciation and acclaim."

I believe that what the mayor and council members must consider is that the area in question must be seriously and thoughtfully reconsidered as to the appropriate use of the space since what is done now will impact the reputation of our City for decades to come. It would be a shame to advocate for an inappropriate vision for this important quadrant as there are infrastructure issues involved that must be dealt with no matter what plan is decided upon. The appearance and the reputation of Asheville as a progressive municipal entity is at stake.

Roger Smith  
1 Battle Square #1107  
Asheville, NC 28801

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Roger Smith <rogersmithone@gmail.com> on behalf of Roger Smith  
**Sent:** Friday, July 07, 2017 6:02 AM  
**To:** cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com  
**Cc:** estermanheimer@avlcouncil.com; Clare Hanrahan  
**Subject:** Battery Park Residents' Committee Petition Signatures

Dear Councilman Bothwell,

You will recall our contact in 2005 when I sat in your office at Mountain Express to discuss the Battery Park Residents' Committee petition drive to advocate for a Civic Plaza at Battle Square instead of a 650-space parking deck that had been planned. You will also recall our contact in 2012 when I presented you with a copy of the 368 petition pages of signatures our committee collected to defeat that plan.

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I believe that what the mayor and council members must consider is that the area in question must be seriously and thoughtfully reconsidered as to the appropriate use of the space since what is done now will impact the reputation of our City for decades to come. It would be a shame to advocate for an inappropriate vision for this important quadrant as there are infrastructure issues involved that must be dealt with no matter what plan is decided upon. The appearance and the reputation of Asheville as a progressive municipal entity is at stake.

Roger Smith  
1 Battle Square #1107  
Asheville, NC 28801

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 01, 2017 1:19 AM  
**To:** Cathy Ball  
**Subject:** Re: Wasn't clear where proposals for 68 Haywood were supposed to be submitted.

Thanks for clarification

The previously named "Friends of St. Lawrence Green" became a formal non-profit and the Board of Directors decided to incorporate as "People's Park Foundation."

Glad I didn't miss the deadline.

-C

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

Cecil Bothwell  
@cecilbothwell  
828-713-8840

On Jun 30, 2017, at 5:30 PM, Cathy Ball <[cball@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:cball@ashevillenc.gov)> wrote:

Cecil,

We have tried to clarify when proposals for the strategic partnerships are due which is much later.

We received the requests for information applications with the deadline of June 26th. I think you submitted one on behalf of St. Lawrence Green for that phase of the process. I hope this helps.

Let me know if you have questions.

Cathy

On Jun 30, 2017, at 5:23 PM, Dana Frankel <[DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov)> wrote:

Jaime/Cathy:

The [Request for Expressions of Interest](#) process is an initial mechanism to determine interest in use of the space for the first year of temporary programming, and get some initial activities scheduled. The site will then be made available for special event permitting through the City's existing process for use of publicly owned property.

The deadline for submissions though the RFEI was June 26. The application itself was a Google Form, accessed through a link in the RFEI. All questions and answers were posted publicly on the [bids and proposals page](#). We did receive a proposal from Cecil (on June 2<sup>nd</sup>) on behalf of Friends of St. Lawrence Green though the application form provided.

The review team is scheduled to review the submissions next week, evaluating each following the criteria defined in the RFEI. The highest-scoring submissions will be prioritized for scheduling, should they propose exclusive use of the space. If fee waivers or other City resources are requested, staff will go to Council on July 25 with recommendations. Some programs may not require permits or exclusive use at all.

In addition to programs that get scheduled through these processes, the site will be available for passive and recreational use daily from 7 AM – 10 PM (when it is not being used exclusively for an event) beginning July 5.

This year (Aug 2017 – Aug 2018) is the first phase of temporary programming for the site – a “pop-up” phase. Attached is the update provided to Council on 5/23, with the section of the timeline highlighted on where we are now, and what we can expect to take place between Aug 2017 and Aug 2018 relative to the interim use period and relevant considerations.

I hope this helps clarify. Please let me know if there are further questions.

Thank you,  
Dana

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**From:** Jaime Matthews  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 28, 2017 3:39 PM  
**To:** Dana Frankel <[DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Wasn't clear where proposals for 68 Haywood were supposed to be submitted.

Where do these go?

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell [<mailto:cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 28, 2017 3:15 PM  
**To:** Jaime Matthews <[JMatthews@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:JMatthews@ashevillenc.gov)>  
**Subject:** Wasn't clear where proposals for 68 Haywood were supposed to be submitted.

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<HaywoodSt-TempUses-Council-5.23.17-Update-highlight.pdf>

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Sydney Grange <sgrange.f13@warren-wilson.edu> on behalf of Sydney Grange  
**Sent:** Monday, May 08, 2017 8:13 PM  
**To:** Cecil Bothwell  
**Subject:** Re: Environmental Law Project: Vacant Lot

Thanks Cecil for answering all of my questions, I appreciate it. If you're interested, I can send you a copy of my final paper, let me know!

Best,  
Sydney Grange

On Sat, May 6, 2017 at 5:00 PM, Cecil Bothwell <[cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com](mailto:cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com)> wrote:

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On May 6, 2017, at 2:13 PM, Sydney Grange <[sgrange.f13@warren-wilson.edu](mailto:sgrange.f13@warren-wilson.edu)> wrote:

Thank you so much for your responses!

So the RFP doesn't request a specific preliminary design for the site? It just asks for some examples of past designs?

Well, there is no RFP at present. My imagination is that no firm is going to invest a lot of time creating a specific site plan (or some specifics) in a bidding process. Big plans take a lot of time (read: money) and I can't imagine they would do that simply pitching their skills. I could be wrong.

So once a design firm is selected and comes up with a design, the final design still has to be approved by City Council?

Definitely. Any expenditure of City money on a big project has to be approved by Council. There's no way we could license an outside organization to create a plan of unknown cost and simply do it.

Is there any space or any possibility for the public and/or a specific community coalition to be a part of deciding on a design firm once proposals begin to come in?

My take is that once we ask for proposals, and those proposals come back to Council, the choice of a design firm would be a debated issue subject to public comment, at least.

In the meantime, Friends of St. Lawrence Green will begin programming in mid-July, and I will insist that whatever design firm is chosen pay attention to the “Quick, Light, Cheap” events we schedule over the next few years in their design considerations.

There's quite a bit of flexibility with the CBA process. There are both public and private CBAs- they can be with City Council/a city agency & a community coalition, a community coalition and developer, or between a community coalition, the city, and the developer. The private agreement with a developer & community group is typically the model that's used, but there are many other types of CBAs. The design firm can serve as the "developer" in a CBA.

Thanks again!

Best,

Sydney

On Fri, May 5, 2017 at 5:41 AM, Cecil Bothwell <[cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com](mailto:cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com)> wrote:

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Cecil Bothwell  
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1) Which city staff/city agency are responsible for issuing the RFP? Does the RFP contain certain expectations-- such as following the guidelines established by the Haywood Visioning project?

City Manager's office, with the City Attorney's office.

2) What is the lot zoned for? Are there any zoning limitations?

Commercial. I am going to ask Council for rezoning as a “temporary park” at the May 23 Council meeting. This designation is necessary in order to use it for the activities we are planning.

3) If City Council were to elect another pro-park candidate in November, and to maintain all current pro-park members, what process would the city undergo to implement a park? Would you all pass a resolution or would it come through a motion or something else?

We would request a park design from the selected design firm, then establish a time frame, and a funding plan.

4) Since the RFP process is expected to end before the November election, and since a design firm will be selected based on their preliminary designs, what would happen if the design firm agreed upon is not willing or able to focus on establishing a park, or if establishing a park runs contrary to their preliminary design?

At least three of us will insist that a full park be one of the design options. Given that the decision will be made by the next Council I think that has to be an option. Note that the study group came back with a list of POSSIBLE uses. They do not have the power to MANDATE anything, just suggest.

5) Do you think that passing a resolution before the RFP goes out to establish some important, necessary components of design for the agency to follow as it drafts its preliminary design could be a possibility? This could be something like devoting a certain amount of land to green space, requiring a certain number of trees or benches etc.

I think the RFP will be more in the way of "show us your previous work and convince us that you are capable of designing a great space."

Today I spoke with someone from a law firm that focuses on Community Benefits Agreements about this site, whether a CBA would be a possibility, and if other options that would ensure city action would be viable. She said a resolution would probably be more viable than a CBA since the city is in process of choosing a firm to create a design for the site, and that this resolution could be good to establish prior to the RFP, since the firms should be designing based upon any restrictions/requirements set. She did also say that a CBA could work-- it would be between City Council or the agency responsible for drafting the RFP and that it would negotiate priorities for the site that designers would be legally bound to upholding once chosen or hired.

Hmmm. I guess I'm confused. I thought a CBA was something between a private developer and the community ... for example, if the sale to McKibbin Hotels had gone through, that corporation might have had a CBA. I don't understand how that would apply to a design firm. Maybe I simply don't understand, but it seems to me that whatever design is created it will have to be accepted by Council. If we have four votes (for anything) we can determine whether that design includes whatever community benefits we expect to achieve.

-C

Just wanted to update you on that conversation I had, and would love to hear your thoughts on the questions! Thanks in advance for your time, I greatly appreciate it.

Thanks,  
Sydney



On Tue, May 2, 2017 at 7:31 AM, Cecil Bothwell

<[cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com](mailto:cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com)> wrote:

Hi Sydney,

The identification of the site as a future park is in an appendix to the DTMP. I think the link I sent should get you there. See the Parks and Greenways Diagram p. S3-29 (for one, I believe it is indicated elsewhere, but that's a start).

While I appreciate your suggestion of a CBA, that presupposes a "developer" with whom to agree. I'm holding out for using all of the land, other than roads as a public space. As I said, I am optimistic that we will have the 4 votes needed after November. (elections are, of course, a crap shoot). The City owns the land outright and can certainly afford to develop the entire property as a park. The "temporary" uses will stretch over at least the next three years as we think through the best approach to the project.

Regarding roads, the first design decision that needs to be arranged involves the 5-way intersection and the alley. The alley that bisects the property is deeded and however things are rearranged that access will be required. The simplest might be a right or left turn in the alley to connect to Haywood or Battle Square.

One idea offered over the course of discussions is connecting the road between the library and the Vanderbilt directly to Battle Square, which would offer the alley a "T" intersection. Other ideas include attaching the park to the front of the Civic Center property and routing traffic around it. (With Haywood making a right turn to Battle Square and the Flint/Haywood connection doing the same. Eliminate Page from Battle Square to Flint? I'm not a traffic planner, but again, that needs to be the first decision.)

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On May 1, 2017, at 9:29 PM, Sydney Grange

<[sgrange.f13@warren-wilson.edu](mailto:sgrange.f13@warren-wilson.edu)> wrote:

Hi Cecil,

Thanks for your responses, I appreciate it.

As for the Downtown Master Plan, I have skimmed through it but have not yet found the section highlighting the need for a park in the specific area where the vacant lot is. Is there a

specific page number or section I can refer to to find this information?

I apologize for saying the Friends of St. Lawrence Green's website, I meant to say the Asheville Design Center's webpage where they describe the project (<https://ashevilledesigncenter.org/projects/haywood-page/>). If you scroll to the bottom under project it says "A Great Plaza: Judging from the attire, Ashevilleians have wanted a plaza in this space since the 1970s."

I really love the work that Friends of St. Lawrence Green is doing! I myself really hope to see a park and a fully-public space. I have been working a bit with Elder and Sage and it has been great to meet and work with some of the residents of the Battery Park and Vanderbilt Apartments! Is the plan of the Friends of St. Lawrence Green coordinating with the Design Center for the summer program? I just recently learned that the Design Center is planning to build a demonstration community garden for the Page site from June-July. Here is the [full press release](#).

Lastly, the community representatives for the CBA model don't have to be those on the Advisory Team, and a new community coalition could be formed for CBA negotiations if they were to occur. The downside to this model, although it could ensure green space for at least part of the site, is that it typically requires compromise and would probably end up allocating other parts of the site for other activities/establishments (yet the other uses would have to be agreed upon by the community coalition and the city before being enacted). Although this is all hypothetical, if a CBA could ensure some green space, yet with the cost of compromising to allow for some other uses of the space (within the reason/willingness of the community coalition), do you feel that this certainty for some green space would be worth the potential costs? Or does the demand for the full site to be a park need to be uncompromising, even if it may not carry the same certainty that a CBA could ensure?

One last question-- what was determined about the rights of the street that bisects the Page and Haywood properties? Would this section be able to be obtained for purpose of creating a larger and less divided space once a design for the space is agreed upon?

Thanks again for your time, I appreciate it!

Best,  
Sydney Grange

On Mon, May 1, 2017 at 8:28 PM, Cecil Bothwell

<[cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com](mailto:cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com)> wrote:

1. How do you feel that the Haywood Visioning Project went? Do you think it was an effective method, and do you think the Asheville Design Center was effective with facilitating it?

I think the Haywood Visioning Project was largely a waste of time and money. It was a major disappointment. The process promised at the outset did not occur and the resulting list of possible uses for the property could have been composed at the start.

2. Do you think City Council is considering greenspace for the area after demands for such a space have been made so clear?

The Council as currently composed is a 4-3 vote in favor of some commercial development of the space. With a major opponent of use of the entire space as a park retiring from Council, I am hopeful that the 2017 election will shift the vote in favor of a park.

3. I read that through a vote in 2014, City Council motioned that the vacant lot needed to have a tax producing building, a street level that adds vibrancy and public activity, and a project that complements the US Cellular Center and the Basilica. Does this motion still hold true? Is this something the City Council is requiring for proposed designs for the space?

The 2014 motion was decisively rejected by voters in 2015 when strong proponents of "all park" finished 1, 2 and 4, with the 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner softening her anti-park position in the closing weeks. The strongest proponent of the tax producing building plan, Vice Mayor Marc Hunt, was decisively rejected by voters.

4. I have heard that City Council elections have in the past been determined over the ongoing debate over this lot. Could you speak more to this? Are there any documents you could point me to that have details on this?

The 2005 election significantly hinged on former Mayor Charles Worley's plan to use the site for a high-rise parking deck with mixed use retail at the ground level. Worley was defeated by Bellamy who opposed the plan, and the Council members elected all opposed the deck.

In 2015, as noted above, pro-park candidates won two of three seats and the winner of the third fudged her pro-development stance in the closing weeks.

I have a link to documents but it is too large to include here. Will try another route.

5. When do you think City Council will be making a decision on a design firm to move forward with the space?

My guess is that Staff will create a Request for Proposals in about two months, that the RFP will go out with a response time of about two months, that responses will be reviewed in about two months, so perhaps a decision on a design firm in the fall. Then designs which will be accepted or rejected by the next Council.

- 6) It has been stated that a Downtown Master Plan for Asheville has called for a park in the area where the vacant lot is currently. Can you point me to that Master Plan and provide more details on that?

<http://www.ashevillenc.gov/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?blobid=27357>

7. On the Friends of St. Lawrence Green Site it says that ashevillians have wanted a plaza for the area where the vacant lot is since 1970? Where has that determination come from/could you point me to more information on the matter?

Um, no. Am not aware of that on that site. Please point me toward it. Think the effort has been since about 2002, with early emphasis in 2005.

8) A Community Benefits Agreement is a legally binding contract signed between community members and the developer that attempts to resolve land-use debates through a community oriented process. These contracts list specific requirements that further benefits to the community and that ensure that community desires are not only considered but are acted upon. Do you think something like this would be feasible to apply to the Haywood and Page Street vacant lots? This would entail that City Council would enter a binding agreement with community stakeholders (potentially the Advisory Team), setting out specific requirements agreed upon after a series of mediated discussions, and these requirements would then be passed along to the designer(s) for them to implement within their proposed designs.

I have no confidence in the Advisory Team. We have formed a nonprofit corporation, Friends of St. Lawrence Green, which will begin to program the “gravel pit” starting in mid July. The promises of the ADC per delivering “quick, cheap, light” events never occurred. So we are going to actually start making things happen. I have four votes on Council for this, so it will go forward. Yoga, Knitting in Public, music, plein aire painting, tai-chi, lectures, reading to kids, poetry, and more.  
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Cecil Bothwell  
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[828-713-8840](tel:828-713-8840)

On May 1, 2017, at 3:39 PM, Sydney Grange  
<[sgrange.f13@warren-wilson.edu](mailto:sgrange.f13@warren-wilson.edu)> wrote:

Hi Cecil,

Thanks for the response, glad you're willing to help! Below are the questions I have. Thanks in advance for your time!

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1) How do you feel that the Haywood Visioning Project went? Do you think it was an effective method, and do you think the Asheville Design Center was effective with facilitating it?

2) Do you think City Council is considering greenspace for the area after demands for such a space have been made so clear?

3) I read that through a vote in 2014, City Council motioned that the vacant lot needed to have a tax producing building, a street level that adds vibrancy and public activity, and a project that complements the US Cellular Center and the Basilica. Does this motion still hold true? Is this something the City Council is requiring for proposed designs for the space?

4) I have heard that City Council elections have in the past been determined over the ongoing debate over this lot. Could you speak more to this? Are there any documents you could point me to that have details on this?

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Thanks again! Any insights you have would be very helpful. I look forward to hearing back!

Best,  
Sydney

On Fri, Apr 28, 2017 at 7:40 AM, Cecil Bothwell <[cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com](mailto:cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com)> wrote:

Hi Sydney,

How about posing your questions via e-mail, then a follow up phone call if you need clarification.

-C

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On Apr 25, 2017, at 10:31 PM,  
Sydney Grange  
<[sgrange.f13@warren-wilson.edu](mailto:sgrange.f13@warren-wilson.edu)> wrote:

Dear Cecil,

My name is Sydney Grange and I am a student at Warren Wilson College studying Environmental Policy and Conservation Biology. I reached out over facebook messenger before I found your email, but I figured it would be good to send an email as well.

I currently am working on a project for my Environmental Law class, and I will be

focusing on the ongoing debate over the vacant lot on Haywood and Page Street. I know you've always had a firm stance on this issue in calling for a park, and I feel that you also have an important perspective since you're on City Council. It would be very helpful to hear your perspective, and I also have some specific questions regarding the vacant lot and the Haywood Visioning Project.

Let me know if you'd be available to talk sometime within the next week and a half. We can talk via email, over the phone, in person-- whatever would work best for you!

Thanks for your time and I hope to hear back soon!

Best,  
Sydney Grange



## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Friday, April 28, 2017 8:09 AM  
**To:** Bree LaCasse  
**Subject:** Follow up question per Friends of Congress Square

Hi Bree,

We've formed a nonprofit and will seek 501(c)3 tax status. Friends of St. Lawrence Green

I'm curious whether you have sample contracts, or advice about the "unexpected" loose ends your non-profit has had to pick up in programming the park.

The City Staff here is sometimes hard to move on new ideas. So I want to be as prepared as possible. Do you take on all park cleanup? Do you pay the police for extra enforcement or is that provided by City? Etc.

Any guidance or direction to where I might find guidance would be appreciated.

Thanks for your inspiration!

-C

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## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2017 6:12 AM  
**To:** Barbara Weatherall  
**Subject:** Re: park in front of the Basilica

Thanks Barbara,

We've been fighting for this for 12 years now and I think we can make it happen one way or another, this year. Either there will be enough public pressure to get a 4th vote on Council this summer, or the November election will decide it. (I thought the 2015 election would do the trick, but we're still one vote shy.)

In the meantime we are creating a non-profit group, Friends of St. Lawrence Green, and hope to start programming public events this summer. The idea is to test simple ideas to see what people want to do in the eventual park.

The City will be installing some infrastructure by this fall to accommodate a farmer's market and a public demonstration garden. Full build-out of a park will take planning and time, of course.

-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

On Apr 20, 2017, at 8:57 PM, Barbara Weatherall <[barbweather65@gmail.com](mailto:barbweather65@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Councilman Bothwell,

I heartily agree with your column printed in the Citizen-Times recently saying how great it would be to have the site in front of the Basilica made into a public park. Yes, the city can afford it and the city needs more green space badly. As a frequent visitor to downtown Asheville I see how increasingly congested it's becoming with buildings and traffic. Pritchard Park and the park in front of the City and County buildings are not enough to accommodate the need for more green space for Asheville.

Thank you for your advocating for a park that would complement the Basilica beautifully as well as provide a needed oasis of respite in our ever more congested downtown.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Weatherall  
10 Trappers Run Dr.  
Asheville NC 28805



## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Neil Barrett <nemacbar@att.net> on behalf of Neil Barrett  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 8:31 PM  
**To:** Cecil Bothwell  
**Subject:** Re: Basilica of St. Lawrence

Thanks for your reply, but alas, how sad. BTW, you don't say exactly what you mean by saying "Will try again tomorrow night". Your msg is a bit too cryptic. I presume you are in favor of keeping green space in front of the Basilica which would be at odds from what I'm told the Task Force will be recommending. It appears that those in the Task Force are at the beckon call of those who want the area developed.

Neil M. Barrett  
nemacbar@att.net

**From:** Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 5:48 PM  
**To:** Neil Barrett  
**Subject:** Re: Basilica of St. Lawrence

Will try again tomorrow night.  
I anticipate the majority will say "no" - so we'll have to fight this one again in November.  
Sigh,  
-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 3:58 PM, Neil Barrett <nemacbar@att.net> wrote:

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:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 6:51 PM  
**To:** Stuart Zitin  
**Subject:** Re: St. Lawrence Green

yeah  
wtf

***"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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 6:43 PM, Stuart Zitin <[stuartzitin@gmail.com](mailto:stuartzitin@gmail.com)> wrote:

Thank you kind sir.

I would be in attendance were it not for being in Rome.  
Rachel and Fra are getting married next Monday!

Although I have gone to the Democratic precinct HQ for meetings twice, I am still self-protective and focused on my recovery.  
Selective about what I read, what I engage in, and I turn our president's image upside down when I see it.  
No need for more aggravation.  
I am doing well here walking 5-7 miles a day, only because I pushed myself 6 weeks after knee replacements to begin walking again and building up to 3 miles.  
Still and all, 15 weeks out, it is tiring and exhilarating all at once!

Thank you again so much for representing us on Council.  
I never cease to appreciate it and to be in awe of you, my friend.

Here's what Gordon wrote:

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

I'm sorry, but that's a WTF if I ever heard one!

So far you are the only two who responded.

In solidarity,  
Stuart

On Mon, Mar 27, 2017 at 4:04 PM, Cecil Bothwell <[cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com](mailto:cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com)> wrote:

Hi Stuart,

Will try again tomorrow night.

I anticipate the majority will say “no” - so we’ll have to fight this one again in November.

Sigh,

-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](tel:828-713-8840)

On Mar 27, 2017, at 8:46 AM, Stuart Zitin <[stuartzitin@gmail.com](mailto:stuartzitin@gmail.com)> wrote:

I beseech you, Honorable Council Members:

Please, please hear the citizens of Asheville when we tell you we want less commercial and more green (park with trees, benches, open space, accessibility) in the St. Lawrence Park.

We want the area to represent the COA's priorities—its citizens and affordability.

There have been so many excellent suggestions for the space.

Acknowledging our local artist community we could rotate outdoor covered “gallery” displays of local art.

Performance space, etc.

So many creative local folks.

We elected several city councilors who support our efforts to shape the Green, including Cecil Bothwell and Brian Haynes.

Another, Rich Lee almost managed to win in the primary as well.

We recognize our reliance on tourism and applaud it.

Now let's put some of that revenue toward hometown infrastructure for both tourists and locals.

The strength and beauty of the St. Lawrence Cathedral demand it.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

Stuart Zitin

139 Third Street

Asheville, NC 28803



## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 5:50 PM  
**To:** Judith Bicking  
**Subject:** Re: St. Lawrence area

Will try again tomorrow night.

I anticipate the majority will say “no” - so we’ll have to fight this one again in November.

Sigh,

-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 3:13 PM, Judith Bicking <[graphics@bicking.com](mailto:graphics@bicking.com)> wrote:

**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:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 5:49 PM  
**To:** deemare@juno.com  
**Subject:** Re: Green Space

Will try again tomorrow night.

I anticipate the majority will say “no” - so we’ll have to fight this one again in November.

Sigh,

-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 2:28 PM, [deemare@juno.com](mailto:deemare@juno.com) wrote:

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:** 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:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:40 AM  
**To:** Jeanine Maland  
**Subject:** Re: St Lawrence area - your vote

Will try again tomorrow night.  
I anticipate the majority will say "no" - so we'll have to fight this one again in November.  
Sigh,  
-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 10:35 AM, Jeanine Maland <[jeanine.maland@gmail.com](mailto:jeanine.maland@gmail.com)> wrote:

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:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:39 AM  
**To:** Keldwyn Teves  
**Subject:** Re: St Lawrence property

I thought we won in Nov. 2015.

The good news (so far) is that at least two announced candidates are pro-park: Kim Roney and Rich Lee. I don't know about others at this point, except for Jeremy Goldstein who is pro-development. (As Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission he approved all the hotels built in recent years - none of them except the BB&T remodel came to Council.)

If my motion fails tomorrow night, it will be a campaign issue in the fall. (Nothing will be done between now and then, fortunately. The next step has to be a decision on vehicle traffic flow. If we are going to reroute traffic it has to be the first step, which means a design process that will go a few months. In the meantime, there will be "pop-up" uses: a tailgate market, some benches, a music stage, perhaps a demo garden.)

-C

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

Cecil Bothwell  
@cecilbothwell  
828-713-8840

On Mar 27, 2017, at 10:29 AM, Keldwyn Teves <[keldwyn@bellsouth.net](mailto:keldwyn@bellsouth.net)> wrote:

You are a TEAM player. Cecil. I appreciate you. If it is up to voters, we'll win right? Or can the developers buy it out from under u. TOO MA NY HOTELS. No parking for residents downtown!

On Mar 27, 2017, at 9:22 AM, Gordon Smith <[gordonsmith@avlcouncil.com](mailto:gordonsmith@avlcouncil.com)> wrote:

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 9:19 AM, Keldwyn Teves <[keldwyn@bellsouth.net](mailto:keldwyn@bellsouth.net)> wrote:

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:** Schmidt Family <fortunessmiled4@gmail.com> on behalf of Schmidt Family  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:36 AM  
**To:** 'Cecil Bothwell'  
**Subject:** RE: I believe the city-owned property in the St. Lawrence area should become green space

Thanks for the response.

David Schmidt  
255-4753

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell [mailto:cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:34 AM  
**To:** Schmidt Family  
**Subject:** Re: I believe the city-owned property in the St. Lawrence area should become green space

Will try again tomorrow night.  
I anticipate the majority will say "no" - so we'll have to fight this one again in November.  
Sigh,  
-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 10:30 AM, Schmidt Family <[fortunessmiled4@gmail.com](mailto:fortunessmiled4@gmail.com)> wrote:

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:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:22 AM  
**To:** David Hayes  
**Subject:** Re: St Lawrence Green

Will try again tomorrow night.

I anticipate the majority will say “no” - so we’ll have to fight this one again in November.

Sigh,

-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 10:12 AM, David Hayes <[contravert@gmail.com](mailto:contravert@gmail.com)> wrote:

Honorable council members,

For fourteen years the business interests in downtown Asheville have pushed for the St Lawrence green parcel to be made available for development, and for fourteen years the people of Asheville have clearly, unequivocally expressed a strong desire for the space, our space, to be reserved for public use.

I am a native of Brevard and in more recent decades a resident of Asheville. I am very familiar with the city and it's long, not always prosperous history. I well remember the blighted downtown of Asheville in the 60s and 70s. It was not an attractive or desirable destination for residents or tourists.

There is plenty of available property to be purchased privately and developed by business interests, but there is no property quite as ideally suited for a public green space as the St. Lawrence parcel. You have a once in a lifetime opportunity to expand the new found beauty of downtown Asheville, to add to it's attractiveness and mystique by creating a badly needed public green space. It's what your constituents overwhelmingly want, and it will benefit both residents and businesses in downtown Asheville far more than yet another business.

David Hayes, MD  
Asheville

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Cynthia Heil <cheil17@att.net> on behalf of Cynthia Heil  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:10 AM  
**To:** Cecil Bothwell  
**Subject:** Re: Green space at St. Lawrence

Thank you so much!

C

On Monday, March 27, 2017 10:03 AM, Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> wrote:

Hi Cindy,  
Will try again tomorrow night.  
I anticipate the majority will say "no" - so we'll have to fight this one again in November.  
Sigh,  
-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 8:46 AM, Cynthia Heil <[cheil17@att.net](mailto:cheil17@att.net)> wrote:

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:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:06 AM  
**To:** Susan Eggerton  
**Subject:** Re: greenspace

Will try again tomorrow night.

I anticipate the majority will say “no” - so we’ll have to fight this one again in November.

Sigh,

-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 8:10 AM, Susan Eggerton <[s.eggerton52@roastedgarlic.net](mailto:s.eggerton52@roastedgarlic.net)> wrote:

I am strongly in favor of making the lot across from St. Lawrence a park or greenspace. Our city is changing rapidly. The taller buildings are and will make the downtown darker, colder. Please do the right & forward-looking thing of not developing that site. Make St. Lawrence green!

Susan Eggerton  
207 Pearson Drive  
28801

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:05 AM  
**To:** juli Fleur  
**Subject:** Re: RE St Lawrence Green

Will try again tomorrow night.

I anticipate the majority will say “no” - so we’ll have to fight this one again in November.

Sigh,

-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 8:38 AM, juli Fleur <[jewelfleur@hotmail.com](mailto:jewelfleur@hotmail.com)> wrote:

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:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:05 AM  
**To:** DONALD HARLAND  
**Subject:** Re: St Lawrence Park

Will try again tomorrow night.

I anticipate the majority will say “no” - so we’ll have to fight this one again in November.

Sigh,

-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 8:41 AM, DONALD HARLAND <[ddharland@bellsouth.net](mailto:ddharland@bellsouth.net)> wrote:

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

---

**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:03 AM  
**To:** Maureen Motley  
**Subject:** Re: St. Lawrence Park

Will try again tomorrow night.

I anticipate the majority will say "no" - so we'll have to fight this one again in November.

Sigh,

-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 8:54 AM, Maureen Motley <[maureenmozi@gmail.com](mailto:maureenmozi@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear city council members,

Please don't disappoint the Asheville voters who elected you. We don't need another commercial development in downtown Asheville. We need a lovely green space for residents and tourists to enjoy.

Please vote for a Nother green space to enrich our fair city.

Sincerely ,  
Maureen Motley Zitin

Sent from my iPhone  
Responses may be abbreviated

## Ben Fulmer

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**From:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:03 AM  
**To:** healing@billwalz.com  
**Subject:** Re: St Lawrence Greenspace

Will try again tomorrow night.

I anticipate the majority will say “no” - so we’ll have to fight this one again in November.

Sigh,

-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 9:20 AM, [healing@billwalz.com](mailto:healing@billwalz.com) wrote:

**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:** Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:03 AM  
**To:** Anne Slatton  
**Subject:** Re: St Lawrence Green Space

Will try again tomorrow night.

I anticipate the majority will say “no” - so we’ll have to fight this one again in November.

Sigh,

-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

On Mar 27, 2017, at 9:34 AM, Anne Slatton <[aslatton@unca.edu](mailto:aslatton@unca.edu)> wrote:

Dear City Council:

Please consider using the undeveloped area by St. Lawrence as a green space for our city. The downtown area does not need another development in that small area, but we could use some more trees!

Thanks for your time,

--

Anne Slatton