



MIKE COOPER
Mayor

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COVINGTON COUNCIL OFFICE

April 23, 2019

Hand Delivered To:

Honorable Members of the Covington City Council
c/o Ms. Bonnie Champagne
317 North Jefferson Avenue
Covington, Louisiana 70433

RE: Veto of Adopted Ordinance No. 2019-10 Declaring Alley Traversing Square 2106 Abandoned and Not Needed for Public Purposes

Honorable Members of the City Council:

Regarding **Ordinance No. 2019-10** adopted by the Covington City Council on April 2, 2019, by a vote of 5 Yeas and 2 Nays, I am hereby providing the reasons for my **Veto** of said ordinance declaring the 20 foot alley traversing Square 2106 abandoned and not needed for public purposes.

1. The formal petition requesting the City to revoke the 20 foot alley did not include signatures of all of the owners of properties affected by this action, prompting an affected property owner to voice objection to the revocation of the alley during the public hearing which was held; and
2. The recommendation from the City Engineer and the City Public Works Department urging that the 20 foot alley should be retained and maintained as a drainage easement to allow for drainage of the adjacent properties was not supported in this ordinance; and

3. The stated disposition of the revoked properties to the affected property owners did not afford the governing authority the right to appoint an expert appraiser to appraise the property for the purpose of selling the revoked properties to the adjacent property owners at no less than appraised value, the process which was specified and utilized in all previous matters of revocations addressed since July 2011; and

4. The one-half square comprising five (5) lots fronting US Hwy 190B (W. 21st Avenue) is undeveloped and is zoned Neighborhood Commercial (CN); it should be considered that the dedicated twenty foot public alley located at the rear of these lots may be needed to serve any proposed commercial development on their property in the future.

In summary, the use of the currently unconstructed public alley traversing Square 2106 may be needed in the future, and the revocation of such at this time is not in the best interest and welfare of the City of Covington.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Cooper
Mayor