

Connected Communities response: Nick Brown, Rose Hill Avenue

Description

Mayor Pureval, Vice Mayor Kearney, Cincinnati City Council:

I am writing to vehemently oppose the new City initiative called "Connected Communities."

We live within a ½ mile of the Tier 1 Transportation Corridor in North Avondale, which has no business district to speak of that residents can utilize. What we do have is an autobahn called Reading Road. Yet, the City has determined we are a PERFECT neighborhood to further condense housing with little zoning oversight. May I ask where these people will shop for essentials as this expansion is targeted to bus riders? Where along the Reading Rd. bus route in the City are essential services such as grocery stores?

What is even more unbelievable of this strangely ill-conceived plan, is the **blatant condensation of poverty and further segregation of neighborhoods**. North Avondale stands as an economically, ethnically, and socially diverse neighborhood. **How do you justify expanding low income and condensed housing in an already diverse neighborhood while you do not adjust zoning for this in more affluent neighborhoods around the City????** While City maps may signify huge pockets of single-family zoned areas in North Avondale, many exceptions are already grandfathered in, so reality is not as it may seem. If you have spent any time in our neighborhood and/or attend NANA meetings, you will know that our neighborhood is extremely open, diverse and proud of it (despite what a current council member alleges otherwise in public meetings).

Connected Communities is the farthest thing from its name. The choice of title of this initiative is a classic diversionary "bait-and-switch" and suggests that the overall objective of dubious value. While certain communities within the City will still enjoy the privilege of little to no affordable housing, beautiful city-supported functional business districts, and the sanctity of single-family zoning... our **NON-CONNECTED Community of North Avondale** can look forward to additional condensed housing, concentrated poverty, no foreseeable functional business district and as a bonus, lower property values.

I have to question how this is even legal. If you have an extreme housing shortage in the **ENTIRE** City, then change zoning in **ALL** of the City. How you can selectively destroy certain neighborhoods, diminish property values and concentrate poverty all based on bus routes is unfathomable.

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