



November 9, 2016

**City Council**

**Kevin Reich**

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of the aims of the Defend Glendale Campaign in its efforts to seek transparency and enfranchisement for the entire Glendale community over the topic of the future of Glendale Townhomes. I have met on several occasions with representatives of the Defend Glendale Campaign and it is clear to me that they have significant concerns regarding displacement, gentrification and disenfranchisement. We have thoroughly discussed their issues regarding the quality of communication and information-sharing on the part of the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA). Further, they have expressed deep frustration about ongoing maintenance and habitability.

I have also had several conversations with a representative from Sustainable Resource Center and have connected that organization with the Defend Glendale Campaign in an effort to identify opportunities for improved weatherization and energy efficiency upgrades. I urge MPHA to pursue all options for identifying these types of resources as part of an effort to enhance the livability of the current Glendale housing.

It has been clear from my multiple meetings with Glendale residents that they prefer the option of renovation over development of new housing. I support Defend Glendale's efforts to engage in planning with MPHA and encourage the agency to take proactive steps to ensure the full engagement of residents in the process, leading to a resolution that fulfills MPHA's obligations of shelter and safety rights and a resolution that both serves and is supported by the Glendale community.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Reich". The signature is stylized with a large "K" and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kevin Reich



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