

Kerrie Clifford, President
Mary McGary, Vice President
Mike Neagle, Treasurer
Brenda Duffey, Secretary

Portland Now, Inc
"The Voice of Portland"

c/o Neighborhood House
201 N 25th Street
Louisville, KY 40212
www.portlandnow.org

February 12, 2018

Ms. Laura Mattingly
Planning & Design Services
Louisville Metro Government
444 South Fifth Street, Suite 300
Louisville, KY 40202

RE: 3200 Rudd Avenue

Dear Ms. Mattingly:

The Board of Directors of the Portland Neighborhood Association recently learned that Bruce Cohen who purchased a property at 3200 Rudd Avenue for commercial purposes has been denied a permit to do so because the property is in a UN residential only zoned neighborhood. This should not be.

After hearing Mr. Cohen's plans for the property at the February Board meeting, the Board voted unanimously to support him in this regard. His plans cannot move forward, however, until the property is rezoned to what it once was – corner commercial. The building Mr. Cohen purchased is a commercial building and that was the original intent. We ask that you support Mr. Cohen in his efforts so he can move forward with plans he has had in place for some time.

Mr. Cohen's property is located in a historic part of Portland that evolved as a mixed neighborhood when immigrants moved into what was then a commercial area. Shotgun houses were built next to warehouses and steamboat mansions to be near their workplace – the Portland Canal. This is what makes our Neighborhood unique and it contributes to bringing in businesses and new residents who appreciate this unique flavor of the community. Longtime residents are excited to welcome this economic boon to their Neighborhood.

These residents are working side by side with new residents as well as business owners who are helping restore this gem at the Falls of the Ohio River to what it once was before the raging waters and a Great Depression affecting this blue-collar neighborhood led to its decline. In fact, the slogan from the recent Art and Heritage Fair was Portland – Come for the Past but Stay for the Future.

The Board of the Portland Neighborhood Association unanimously supports Mr. Bruce Cohen's request for rezoning 3200 Rudd Avenue for commercial use.

Best regards,



Kerrie Clifford
President

c: Bruce Cohen
Maria McGary, PNI
Brenda Duffey, PNI

Cheri Bryant-Hamilton, Metro Council
Mike Neagle, PNI
Gary Watrous, PNI