

April 25, 2022

Jason Plunkett, President
Brad Burk, Vice President
Alexander Choi
Josh Garrett
Bryan Traylor
Craig Melton

Re: Zionsville Preservation Commission

Zionsville Town Council Member:

I am writing to express my **full support** for the proposed Zionsville Preservation Commission. My wife and I have lived on Pine Street in the Village for over 40 years and we are genuinely concerned that our town leaders need to take a careful, measured look at what we want the Village to look like in the coming decades. A commission to study this is reasonable and prudent.

A recent well-designed and professionally administered survey of Village residents indicated very strong support for studying our current environment and considering changes. The support was tallied by household. Using this as a reference, your passage on first reading was the right thing to do.

Since that time, a completely inaccurate online petition has garnered support (tallied by individual) for not creating an ordinance, which isn't what is being considered at this stage anyway. Essentially, those who "signed" the online petition are opposed to the misinformation outlined, which no one has suggested and was not considered or passed at your last meeting. Unfortunately, scare tactics can motivate.

Please pass this on second reading so that Village residents at least have a chance to gain some protection in the future. Once the Zionsville Preservation Commission has completed its work, every Village resident will have an opportunity to express support or opposition. That's called democracy.

Just as an aside, this reminds me very much of the vocal opposition years ago for a "rail trail" project here in Zionsville (and many other communities). Roving gangs of thieves will be invading your yard! Today's reality: direct access to a walking trail is considered a value-added amenity. Other Indiana communities have discovered that the same is true about "historic districts." The reality is that your purple house paint is safe, plus your property values just increased and no one is building a land whale on the tiny lot right next door. Good for Village residents, good for the Town of Zionsville.

Thank you for your time and thank you as well for the job that you do for Zionsville. It must be a thankless and time-consuming task, and I am most appreciative of your public service.

Sincerely,

Michael Sandy
485 West Pine Street