

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Champlin, Byron O <Byron.Champlin@lfg.com>
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 6:53 PM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fwd: Plaza Fountain

Hi Janice:

Please share this communication from Charlie Cole with Mayor and Council.

Thanks!

B.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Charlie Cole <charlie@colegardens.com>
Date: July 13, 2015 at 6:13:34 PM EDT
To: <Byron.Champlin@lfg.com>
Subject: Plaza Fountain

Byron

I'm sorry it doesn't look like I will be able to make it to the hearing tonight regarding the future of the fountain on City Plaza. I am just now getting a chance today to write this up. If you can use what I wrote below great, if you can't I'm sorry for the delay.

-Please update anything below that might be inaccurate or use your best judgment and feel free to "massage". Honestly I typed this up very quickly you will quickly notice this is a weakness of mine.

-If at all possible please don't use my name

-Good luck

City Council-

Three years ago we decided to purchase a home within walking distance to downtown Concord. At that time the deciding factor to set roots here in Concord was the positive future plans of the redevelopment of Main Street. Over the last couple of months it has been exciting to see the changes on North Main Street. One key element to give the landscape on Main Street a lasting impression for visitors will be a water feature on City Plaza. Fountains are not only pretty to admire, but the sound that water makes can bring a sense of calmness to a busy street. At this point in time City Plaza is a large open space that is lacking colorful interest. A water feature would soften this hard landscape and become a nice area to eat your ice cream from one of three "ice cream" shops, or a place to enjoy your lunch from the many restaurants on the strip.

Concord must set itself apart from other tourist destinations around the state and keep looking at ways to draw visitors to our city, to shop at our retail stores, eat at our restaurants, and stay in our hotels. The Main Street Project is going to make help bring outside dollars into our city and this fountain is the icing on the cake.

Charlie Cole

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July 13, 2015

Mayor Jim Bouley
Concord City Council
City Hall
41 Green Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Mayor Bouley and Members of the City Council,

Intown Concord supports the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce's initiative to add an interactive water feature to Concord's Complete Streets Redesign Project.

We are very pleased with the addition of this feature into the plan, and think it would add substantially to the appeal of Concord's City Plaza as a downtown focal point and a complement to the beautiful New Hampshire Capitol building and grounds.

A water feature would attract more visitors to Concord's downtown and prolong the amount of time and money that our guests would spend at nearby businesses. We also believe that the addition of an attractive, unusual, family-friendly element like the proposed water feature would add a fun new dimension to Intown Concord's free community events, which bring tens of thousands of visitors to downtown annually.

Sincerely,

Elyssa Paris
Board President

Liza Poinier
Operations Manager

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Dick Lemieux <concordward4@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2015 10:34 AM
To: Bonenfant, Janice; Mulholland, Michelle
Subject: Water Feature

Janice, Michelle,

Would you please forward this message to Council for me?

Thanks so much....

Dick

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Dear Mayor Bouley and Councilors,

Due to a conflict, I will be unable to testify on the City Plaza water feature at tomorrow's Council meeting. If I could be there, I would testify *in favor* of accepting the donation and going forward.

I can see no harm in any feature on Main Street that would attract children and families to the front of New Hampshire's Statehouse. If the fountain also helps to displace the loitering and illicit activity that takes place there now, all the better.

To pull this feat off with all or mostly private funding is an added plus. My only caution is to make sure there is a plan, commitment, and funding in place to maintain the water feature.

P. S., If I could be at the meeting, I would start by telling you how pleased I am about the changes so far on Main Street! Kudos to Council, the Manager, Engineering, McFarland-Johnson, Severino Brothers, merchants, and property owners. Nice work, all!

Sincerely,
Dick Lemieux
Ward 4

--
Dick Lemieux, P. E., Retired

Chair, Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC)
President, Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail (MRGT.ORG)
Former Concord City Councilor, Ward 4
Concord is New Hampshire's first Complete Streets Community
Concord is New Hampshire's first Bicycle Friendly Community

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Bonenfant, Janice
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 9:18 AM
To: Allen Bennett; Amanda Grady Sexton ; Candace Bouchard ; Councilor Bennett; Councilor Bouchard; Councilor Champlin ; Councilor Coen; Councilor Grady Sexton; Councilor Herschlag; Councilor Keach; Councilor Matson; Councilor McClure ; Councilor Nyhan; Councilor Shurtleff; Councilor St. Hilaire ; Councilor Todd; Councilor Werner ; Dan St. Hilaire ; Gail Matson; Jan McClure ; Jan McClure (Work) (jmclure@tnc.org); Keith Nyhan; Mayor Bouley; Rob Werner; Robert Werner; Steve Shurtleff
Subject: FW: fountains

Mayor Bouley and Members of City Council – additional testimony for your review prior to your meeting this evening.

Janice

From: Jim Bouley [<mailto:jpbouley@comcast.net>]
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2015 10:00 PM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fwd: fountains

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ellen Schaffer <ellen726@hotmail.com>
To: "dshilaire@comcast.net" <jpbouley@comcast.net>
Subject: fountains
Date: July 11, 2015 at 6:58:04 PM EDT

My husband and I wholeheartedly agree with Suzanne Meyer's piece in today's Monitor. Main Street is looking very nice but it would have looked even better if the benches and bike racks were black . With the addition of the fountain it will look like a children's amusement park, all bright, mismatched colors and fountains. It is the capital city and should reflect that. I noticed the fountain in White Park wasn't on when I drove by, maybe we should attend to that.

Thank you
Ellen Schaffer

July 12, 2015

To: Mayor Bouley and City Councilors

I am writing to express my opposition to a sidewalk fountain in front of our State Capitol.

My reasons are listed below:

- The area is too small for such a fountain. Even though the fountain will only take up the south section of the plaza, a bit away from the war memorial, a substantial spillover effect will be inevitable and constant.

A quick glance at some of these fountains across the country show them to be in larger plaza areas and/or on the edge of a park.

I accepted the invitation in a recent Monitor online comment to Google Salem, Oregon's supposedly similar fountain. That fountain is actually situated on many wide-open acres, a site almost the opposite of the cramped Concord site.

- This area has a war memorial and is a place of civic gatherings. I can just visualize the towels strewn across both sides of the arch. There most likely will be a clamor for the city to provide bathroom and other facilities on this small site.
- Following Susanne Meyer's recent excellent My Turn in the Concord Monitor, there was a comment that there were "two used hypodermic needles and three used condoms in the area around the memorial." There

is no logical connection here-a fountain would not make needles and condoms in the area less likely. In fact, these items could easily end up in and around the fountain.

- There is a potential risk of injury from children (or adults) slipping or running into each other as well as exposure to water-borne contaminants.

Since 2012, the Crown Center fountain in Kansas City, MO no longer allows people in the fountain for the above reasons.

- Regardless of the fact that this is most likely going to be a recirculation fountain, there will still be loss of water through evaporation and spillage.
- It has been estimated that the ongoing maintenance costs for this fountain would be \$ 4,000 to \$5,000 each year. I am not sure how this estimate was obtained, but initial estimates usually end up higher than what was originally quoted. And, undoubtedly that with each year of use, there will be additional costs for labor and replacement parts, making the annual maintenance costs rise.

In a March 1,2009 an article in the Salem Weekly (Oregon), a similar fountain's yearly maintenance expenses was calculated to be about \$6,000. It was pointed out in this article that the city of Salem would soon be paying approximately \$9,500 annually for maintenance due to labor and replacement parts (and that was in 2009).

Kathleen Conners
Concord

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Jim Bouley <jpbouley@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2015 10:00 PM
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Ellen Schaffer