



Dear Mark,

The Houston Housing Authority (HHA) is moving fast to build a subsidized low-income housing project at 2640 Fountain View at Westheimer, and this is the first step of a larger HHA plan to build subsidized low-income housing projects throughout our neighborhoods in west Houston.

It's important you know that I intend to aggressively fight HHA's plan to redevelop our communities without our input. **This will be a tough battle, but I will not relent.**

I've enclosed a map I recently received from HHA. The neighborhoods marked in yellow are currently being targeted for subsidized low-income multi-family housing projects. This shows that HHA's plan most likely includes your neighborhood.

The 2640 Fountain View housing project is the first step in their effort to transform our neighborhoods. Low-income housing advocates and HHA are using a recent Supreme Court decision to aggressively target more neighborhoods. This is an outrage.

Here are my best recommendations on how we can work together to protect our neighborhoods from these zealous liberal bureaucrats and community organizers.

First, let's try to stop or at least slow down the 2640 Fountain View project. HHA planned this project for this location with zero transparency, and the necessary funds are coming from the State of Texas. If there were additional federal money involved, I would try to block it.

I have been in communication with State Representative Jim Murphy and State Senator Joan Huffman who are ready to help us object to the release of this State money, so please write or call and let them know you support their efforts.

We should first focus on the reasons the Fountain View housing project should not be built here. Briargrove Elementary is already overcrowded, and the hundreds of new students from the housing project will make it much more difficult for neighborhood families to get their children into this top notch school.

Second, traffic is already terrible in this area, and hundreds of new families will make it far worse. It's apparent HHA never conducted a traffic study to gauge the impact of their proposal.

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Third, HHA never even considered better locations in areas where the neighborhood school is not overcrowded and the traffic is not nearly as bad.

I have already formally registered my strong opposition to this project in a letter I sent to the U.S. Secretary for Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Julian Castro, but federal law needs to be changed in several ways to protect us in the future.

I am currently drafting amendments to federal law to prevent another 2640 Fountain View from sneaking up again on another great neighborhood. I serve on the House Appropriations Committee and the HUD subcommittee, so I will offer amendments to the HUD funding bill that:

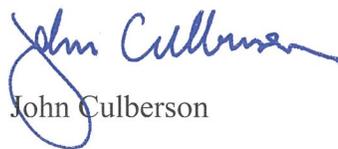
- Require HUD to notify every neighborhood association, every neighborhood school and every elected official in the area before HUD even takes the first step to plan one of these projects;
- Prohibit construction of subsidized multifamily housing within the attendance area of overcrowded schools;
- Prohibit HUD from overriding race neutral deed restrictions that are instead designed to ensure only single family homes are built there;
- Prohibit HUD from building subsidized multifamily housing in areas where traffic is already severely congested.

These amendments will also prevent liberal zealots from relying solely on racial statistics using the recent Supreme Court decision handed down last June. All of our laws must be race neutral, so it is unacceptable to use racial statistics as the primary guidepost to build low-income housing.

My battle to stop HHA from damaging our schools, our traffic and our quality of life will take every skill I have learned over the years as your representative. **I am fighting President Barack Obama's relentless attempt to "fundamentally transform America," and this battle is a vital part of my effort to protect the America we know and love, and to protect the prosperity and tranquility we have worked so hard to create in District 7.**

It is a privilege to represent you and your neighbors in the United States Congress. You can always count on me to keep my word to you. I will not relent and I will not falter in this fight to protect our quality of life in west Houston.

Sincerely,



John Culberson