

# The Senate of The State of Texas

COMMITTEES:  
STATE AFFAIRS—CHAIR  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE—VICE-CHAIR  
FINANCE



**JOAN HUFFMAN**  
DISTRICT 17

February 15, 2016

Mr. Lance Gilliam  
Chair, Board of Commissioners  
Houston Housing Authority  
2640 Fountain View Drive  
Houston, TX 77057

Dear Mr. Gilliam,

On behalf of my constituents in the Briar Grove, Tanglewood, Briarcroft, Charnwood, and Briarbend neighborhoods, I write in opposition to proposed 233-unit multifamily project at 2640 Fountain View. Over the last few weeks, my office has been in close contact with the offices of Congressman John Culberson, Houston City Council Member Greg Travis, and State Representative Jim Murphy, all of whom have arrived at the same conclusion that this project will be of great detriment to the hard-working families in the aforementioned areas.

While I am completely aware that the Department of Housing and Urban Development has charged the HHA with building affordable housing in neighborhoods of "high opportunity", I believe that given the fact that nearby schools are already over capacity, it would be irresponsible to bring more children into an area that is already struggling with overcrowding. Additionally, I have been informed that the HHA failed to communicate with both HISD and the members of the community in regards to the potential impact a 223-unit multifamily project would have on the local schools and neighborhoods. I firmly believe that a project such as this one needs to not only be fully transparent, but also requires substantial input from those who would live with the ramifications on a day to day basis. To do otherwise would go directly against the tenants of open and good governance.

Furthermore, to construct another apartment project in the current economic climate would be a misappropriation of funds that could be otherwise used to reinvest into areas throughout the City of Houston that desperately need support.

In short, I along with my colleagues who have contacted your office, request that you please reach out to the community to solicit input and support before moving ahead, if at all.

I look forward to working with all of the stakeholders such as yourself to ensure that the constituents of Senate District 17 are well informed, and are able to have a voice in the matters that affect their neighborhoods and schools.



BRAZORIA ★ FORT BEND ★ HARRIS

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Huffman".

Joan Huffman

Cc: Congressman John Culberson  
Representative Jim Murphy  
Commissioner George P. Bush  
Mayor Sylvester Turner  
Houston City Council Member Greg Travis ✕  
HISD Trustee District VII Harvin C. Moore

