

Good Evening Mr. Mayor, City Council members, and citizens of Arvada.

Citizens have been encouraged to participate in City matters. As we participated, we discovered irregularities and brought them to your attention. You have never acted in support of our concerns about the hi-rise apartment building on McIlvoy Park.

We are appalled at the lack of true transparency. We are angry that our voices are ignored. It appears that this City government goes through the motions but has no interest whatsoever in what the citizens say. It's reminiscent of the propaganda used so effectively by totalitarian regimes!

The citizens of Arvada are now taking action regarding the apartment building. You are receiving a draft legal complaint outlining your outright violations of State law and your own rules of procedure. This will be the second lawsuit this year against you. We have every intention of pursuing this action and assuring that historic structures, like the Arvada Masonic lodge, are not destroyed.

The Specifics:

First, you are violating the State law on eminent domain, which clearly states that land taken MUST be used for a PUBLIC purpose. Arvada intends to transfer land, taken under eminent domain, to the developer of the 5-story, non-conforming rental apartment building for the sole use of the renters as a parking lot - clearly a private purpose!

Second, imagine the citizens' surprise when a public meeting suddenly became a public hearing regarding destruction of the historic Arvada Masonic Lodge. The invitation to this meeting specifically stated that the meeting was NOT a public hearing. This subterfuge clearly violates the intent and rules governing public hearings.

Third, a "revocable permit for encroachment" on McIlvoy Park is awaiting Council's final action. This encroachment would make a portion of our park unusable to the public by replacing grass with cement sidewalks for the private use of the renters. Such a permit violates a restrictive covenant contained in Mrs. McIlvoy's deed: the land is for the use of the public as a park.

These complaints are just a small portion of the misleading and deceptive actions taken by our elected officials to enable this unwanted rental apartment building. They illustrate a pattern of arrogant disregard for citizen concerns, for the character and ambiance of our three National Historic Districts, and most important, for all that is unique and special about Arvada, our home.

Thank you.