



21 February 2019

Distribution:

Mayor Kevin Faulconer
City Attorney Mara Elliott
Council President Georgette Gomez
Council Member Jennifer Campbell
Council Member Barbara Bry

Regarding: **Liberty Station Transfer of Lease**

Liberty Station, inclusive of the North Chapel, is a community gem that must be protected and preserved. The transfer to a new leaseholder, from McMillin Co. to Seligman Group / Pendulum Partners comes with 47 years remaining on the lease.

In regard to the North Chapel, the city attorney has said the new leaseholder can *legally* alter certain things that the community considers in contradiction to the historic character and intent, including closing the chapel, failing to maintain the interior, and removing the pews for storage off-site. The transfer of the leasehold clearly is a pivotal moment in the future of the North Chapel and all of Liberty Station.

The Peninsula Community Planning Board (PCPB) respectfully requests that the mayor and the city attorney appoint staffers to monitor leaseholder performance and to publicly report major changes and/or significant failures. We believe that a dialogue between the leaseholder and all segments of the community would be productive at this juncture, to gain public input, to dispel rumors and to share the new leaseholder's grand vision for this property. We request that Seligman Group / Pendulum Partners / 828 Venues / RiverRock Real Estate Group voluntarily consider a public outreach that may include the following points:

- That the leaseholder reaches out to every demographic -- Liberty Station tenants, shoppers, planning groups, historic preservationists, religious congregations, veterans' groups, service clubs, and media representatives. The PCPB specifically requests that the dialogue include, but not be limited to the following stakeholders:
 - Ronald Slayen, Liberty Station tenant and advocate
 - Arlene Paraiso, coordinator for St. John Bosco Mission
 - Bruce Coons, executive director of Save Our Heritage Organization.
- That even partial answers to public questions at forums would be better than silence. For example, "We can support that concept with the proviso that..."
- That the leaseholder voluntarily gives the city and the community six-month notice of any significant change to buildings or use policies and to not make major changes before Sept. 30, 2019 or completing an extensive public outreach.



- That the leaseholder considers regular communications with the planning board's Liberty Station Committee as an effective way in satisfying part of that public outreach. Presentations to organized groups, surveys, workshops and even town halls are other ways.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert A. Goldyn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "R" and "G".

Robert Goldyn, Chairman (PCPB)

Approved by an Action of the Peninsula Community Planning Board on 21 March 2019.

Copied Distribution:

Tim Wirick, CEO, 828 Venue Management Company
Joe Haeussler, Pendulum Partners
Ronald Slayen, Liberty Station tenant and advocate
Arlene Paraiso, coordinator, St. John Bosco Mission
Bruce Coons, executive director, Save Our Heritage Organization