

To: Honorable Mayor and city council
From: Chuck Winkleblack, Hunziker Companies
Date: February 8, 2019
RE: Billboard referral

The Developers are refining the project on the North side of Lincoln Way between Clark and Kellogg and hope to have the larger project in front of you in the coming weeks ahead. One important issue that has come to light as we start to assess the complexities of this project is billboards. There are two billboards on that two-block stretch. The billboards are locked into long term leases. I think we can all agree we don't want to design this project around two older existing billboards.

My request is that you refer this issue to staff so they can bring back some possible solutions or at least a better understanding of the issue. I have discussed this issue with the planning director, and he agreed that we don't want to incorporate the existing billboards into the new project and that now would be the time to see what can be worked out. The bigger project will not be able to move forward and finalize the design until this issue is resolved. I am not very familiar with the code regarding billboards, but the planning director indicated that our code does not allow new billboards to be installed easily.

The billboard company is willing to talk about alternative locations or changes to some of the other billboards that they have in town in exchange for terminating the leases that they have on the existing billboards. Our attorney reviewed the leases that are in place and it appears as though they have the legal right to stay in the existing locations until the year 2030. The billboard company does not want to hold up the project, but they would like to be able to stay in business and not go backwards or lose the number of billboards they have as a result of the new project.

Thanks in advance for your consideration.

