

October 13, 2018

To: Phoenix Mayor and City Council Members

From: Dr. Ruth Ann Marston  
57 W. Vernon Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Re: Case No. Z-41-18-4

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

I am seriously concerned that allowing this tower to be built in this place and at this time will endanger the viability of the public transportation system so many of us have worked for so long. Reducing the project's height, as recommended by the Planning Commission, does not mitigate the precedent of allowing such development outside of the corridor planned for it. Because of the size, complexity and dynamism of our city, I know you must wrestle constantly with how to allow the General Plan of the City of Phoenix to respond to the changing needs of our citizens while still protecting them under the rule of law. Sometimes it's a tough call. We all have the right to suggest changes to the Plan, and we all have the expectation that under the Plan the rezoning process will protect not only our own property but the orderly development which protects our property values and the quality of life in our communities.

It must be obvious that the citizens of Phoenix would never knowingly approve a General Plan which contained provisions for so many egregious exceptions as are embodied in Case No. Z-41-18-4. I do not need to repeat the recommendations for denial of zoning for this project comprehensively covered in the Staff Report issued by the City Planning and Development Department and by the Encanto Village Planning Committee.

I want to say that, if this project were to be built, it would be a shameful monument in the most public of places...a monument to the failure of the City of Phoenix to follow its own General Plan. Every time we passed it, our trust in Phoenix' government would be further eroded.