

Manayunk Neighborhood Council, PO Box 4667, Philadelphia, PA 19127

www.ManayunkCouncil.org 215-487-2125



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The Honorable Curtis Jones Jr.
City Council
Room 404, City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107

April 27, 2014

Dear Councilman Jones,

As I am sure you know, we recently became aware of Bill 140133 to sell the City owned parking lot at 147 Gay Street for residential development. Given the chronic parking problems in the neighborhood and the constant press to develop every nook and cranny, we believe any short term profits from this sale will be quickly offset by reduced quality of life and the loss of committed tax paying residents.

- 155 Gay Street is being redeveloped with the loss of 25 parking spaces
- Garages at 142-144 Levering are being redeveloped as houses
- 149-159 Green Lane is being redeveloped (former church lot that allowed parking)
- Other church lots, that have helped handle overflow, are likely to be sold and developed.
- This area is particularly dense, with one-side-of-the street parking and narrow alley/streets with no parking.
- SEPTA is reconsidering the use of their Green Lane lot which may put at least 50 more cars out on the local streets.

While Bill 140133 may seem to add insult to injury, perhaps it can highlight the ever worsening conditions in Manayunk. This in turn may promote positive action. We have already been approached by a group of professionals willing to take over management of the lot for continued use for community parking. They will be reaching out to you shortly.

On behalf of your constituents in Manayunk we respectfully request that you

- Withdraw Bill 140133
- Review the 1997 Planning Commission Manayunk Opinion Survey (<http://www.manayunkcouncil.org/survey.html>)
- Convene a parking summit to address the chronic and worsening parking problems.
- Undertake a comprehensive parking planning study in Manayunk.
- Create a comprehensive parking and development plan for Manayunk, including identifying additional parking resources that could be acquired or preserved.

We look forward to hearing from you and working with you on this important problem.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Smith', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Kevin Smith
President

Cc: State Representative Pam Dellisio