January 6, 2022

Denver City Council Members City & County Building 1437 Bannock Street Denver, CO 80202

RE: Opposition to Rezone CB21-1371 -- 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

#### **Honorable Council Members:**

The location of this site is not practical for the 4-story senior housing and memory care facility proposed with this rezone. The proposed height increase from 37 feet under current R-4 with waivers to S-MU-5 could result in extremely intensive use of this site. Portions of the site are constrained due to a flood plain designation, high water table, and a sewer easement, which limit flexibility for the location of uses at the intensity allowed by the proposed S-MU-5 zone. Did the City analyze and consider S-MU-3 for this site rather than just S-MU-5 given these constraints? S-MU-3 zoning is as compatible with the Lowry Reuse Plan and other City plans as S-MU-5 zoning. In addition, the context of nearby development along Lowry Boulevard is largely 3-stories in height (e.g., The Center at Lowry and InnovAge, both care facilities, and the Alas Over Lowry apartment buildings). This height context and the lower height of adjacent single-family homes along Yosemite Way warrant consideration of S-MU-3 zoning.

Of particular concern to the residents of East Park is the development scheme shared by the developer with the community showing a large, 4-story parking garage butting up against the East Park neighborhood on Yosemite Way and the Sports Boulevard entrance to the regionally significant Lowry Sports Complex Park used by all residents of Lowry and beyond. The existing sidewalk adjacent to the site is an important connector for both pedestrians and bicyclists — to the Great Lawn on the north side of Lowry Blvd and to the paved bicycle/pedestrian path in the natural area to the southeast that connects to the Westerly Creek Dam, off-leash dog park, and bicycle paths in Aurora. The parking garage could create a "dead zone" for pedestrians and bicyclists. What other large park in Denver has a 4-story parking garage at one of its major entrances? Are there any other 4-story parking garages in Lowry?

These existing site conditions also present a challenge for consistency with the Lowry Reuse Plan and Lowry Design Guidelines. Lowry is intended to be a walkable community; integrating design with active uses that support a cohesive pedestrian realm. Recent multi-family and commercial developments in Lowry have been designed to place a priority on supporting this as well as minimizing the impact of parking on neighboring properties. Recent multi-family developments in Lowry, including the Alas Over Lowry apartments on Lowry Boulevard adjacent to the Great Lawn Park as well as Encore at Boulevard One, have wrapped housing units around parking and/or underneath residential units to screen parking from view. That is not the case with this proposed development, especially the proposed location and visibility of the parking

January 6, 2022 Opposition to Rezone CB21-1371 – 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Page 2

garage. These other developments also have residential units with windows for "eyes on the street", modulation, use of multiple building materials and colors, landscaping (in some cases combined with street furniture), and lighting to enhance the pedestrian experience.

We have been told that certain issues can be addressed later during City site development plan review and design review by the Lowry Design Review Board. However, there are very limited opportunities for public input at these later decision points. We urge the City Council to respond to our concerns now.

We respectfully request that the City Council take the following actions:

- 1. Postpone the rezone decision until the developer and community residents can resolve outstanding issues of intensity of use, location of uses, and design compatibility.
- Remand this rezone application to Community Planning and Development to consider and analyze the less intensive zone S-MU-3, considering: (a) existing site constraints (e.g., flood plain designation, high water table, sewer easement) and (b) the context (especially height) of surrounding land uses and existing zone designations.
- 3. Remove references to the Good Neighbor Agreement attached to the rezone report from the record. It was put forward by the developer but not agreed to by the Lowry United Neighborhoods Board and should not be a factor in the rezone decision.

Sincerely,

The Below Signed Residents of East Park (80 signees)
Per Attachment

cc: Logan Fry, District 5 Senior Council Aide
Libby Kaiser, Senior City Planner, Community Planning and Development
Jim Larsen, Senior Development Project Administrator, Community Planning and
Development
Katherine Head, LUN Co-Chair
Carla McConnell, LUN Co-Chair
Mary Carr, LCMA Executive Director

Tuesday, January 4, 2022
Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard
Name Helen Martin Address 9167 E 4th Pl
Denver , CO, 80230 <b>E-mail</b> hsmartin1@msn.com
Signature
45 mail
Monday, January 3, 2022
Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevar
Name Richard Harvey Address 9178 E. 4th Place
Denver, COLORADO, 80230 <b>E-mail</b> richardharvey65@gmail.com
Signature
Sy
Reclarationey
Sunday, January 2, 2022
Opposition to recening of 9900 E. Lowey Poulovar
Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Brian Montgomery Address 9198 E Fourth PI
Denver, CO, 80230 <b>E-mail</b> montg_brian@yahoo.com
Signature
B-Mg/22

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Nichole Yale Address 9201 E 5th Avenue Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail nichole.yale@gmail.com Signature Mundle glelc Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Jeff McCord Address 9208 E. 4th Place Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** jdmccord@comcast.net Signature Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Annette Schandl Address 9217 E. 4th Place Denver, CO, 80239 **E-mail** abschandl@gmail.com Signature 1. I home

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Harold Feldman Address 9218 e 4th place

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail elainefeldman@comcast.net

Signature

Monday, January 3, 2022

#### Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Michelle Christopher Address 9237 East 4th Place

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail mrschristopher77@gmail.com

Signature

Mishelle Chanterples

Monday, January 3, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Toby Hamer Address 9248 East 4th Pl

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail tobyhamer@hotmail.com

Signature

T.S.HANER

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Julie George Address 9311 E 5th Ave Denver, Colorado, 80230 **E-mail** jlgeorge7@yahoo.com Signature Wednesday, January 5, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name David Tucker Address 8992 E 5th Place Denver, Colorado, 80230 E-mail dave@teeginc.com Signature Wednesday, January 5, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Ken Clark Address 9000 E. 5th Ave Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail bocaclark@gmail.com Signature

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Julie Raines Address 9050 E 5th Ave Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** juliecraines@yahoo.com Signature Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Sean Brown Address 9050 E. 5th Ave. Denver, Colorado, 80230 **E-mail** seancbart@gmail.com Signature Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Brian Dodds Address 9090 E 5th Ave Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail bdoddsco@comcast.net Signature

Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Amanda Dodds Address 9090 E 5th Ave Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** adodds.ksc@gmail.com Signature Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Marcia Reish Address 9100 E 5TH AVE DENVER, CO, 80230 **E-mail** rmreish1@gmail.com Signature Marca Raish Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Robert Reish Address 9100 E 5TH AVE DENVER, Colorado, 80230 E-mail rmreish1@gmail.com Signature MAD Ring

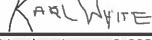
Monday, January 3, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Karl White Address 9147 E 4th Pl

Denver, Colorado, 80230 E-mail karlwhite6@yahoo.com

Signature



Monday, January 3, 2022

#### Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Jolene White Address 9147 E 4th Place

Denver, Co, 80230

E-mail joleneswhite@gmail.com

Signature

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

#### Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Steven Earl

Address 8970 East 5th Avenue

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail stevenrearl@hotmail.com

Signature

John Ext

Monday, January 3, 2022

Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Michele Huston Address 8972 E 5th Place

Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail michuston@comcast.net

Signature

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Monday, January 3, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Sarah Massena Address 8980 E. 5th Ave

Denver, Colorado, 80230 **E-mail** smwags@comcast.net

Signature



Tuesday, January 4, 2022

## Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Nicholas Weber Address 8981 E 5th Ave

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail webdawg96@hotmail.com



Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Emily Weber Address 8981 E 5th Ave Denver, COLORADO, 80230 E-mail emilykweber1023@gmail.com Signature Green Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Jordan Fink Address 8982 E 5th Pl Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail jordan.j.fink@gmail.com Signature Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Rhianna Fink Address 8982 E 5th Pl Denver , CO, 80230 E-mail rhianna.tuchscherer@gmail.com Signature Rhianna Fint

Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Constance Artiques Address 8991 East 5th Avenue Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail constance@kiostorage.com Signature Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Albert Artigues Address 8991 East 5th Avenue Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail albert.a.artigues@gmail.com Signature Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Laura Pray Address 8992 E 5th Pl Denver, Co, 80230 **E-mail** lp10@comcast.net Signature

Sunday, January 2, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Erich Martin Address 493 Alton Way

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail erich.martin2@gmail.com

Signature



Sunday, January 2, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Megan Brady Address 500 Yosemite Way

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail megan.brady413@gmail.com

Signature

Megan Brothy

Sunday, January 2, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Ryan Tordella Address 500 Yosemite Way

Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** tordella.ryan@gmail.com



Sunday, January 2, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Andrea Smith Address 510 Yosemite Way

Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail andi181401@gmail.com

Signature

Monday, January 3, 2022

Mr. p.h

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name julie zimbelman Address 520 Yosemite Way

Denver , CO, 80230

E-mail jzimbelman@comcast.net

Signature

Monday, January 3, 2022

## Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Scott Zimbelman Address 520 Yosemite Way

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail s.zimbelman@comcast.net



Monday, January 3, 2022

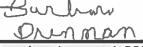
# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Barbara Drennan Address 553 Alton Way, Unit E

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail aquarius4419@gmail.com

Signature



Tuesday, January 4, 2022

## Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Jack Mudry

Address 84 Spruce St., Unit 103

Denver, Co., 80230

E-mail jackgregory50@gmail.com

Signature

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Lyndsay Arundel Address 8962 E 5th Avenue

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail lyndsay.arundel@gmail.com

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Ruojia Zhou Address 8970 E 5th Ave

Denver/80230 **E-mail** ruojiaz@yahoo.com

Signature

Sunday, January 2, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Aakriti Pandita Address 463 alton way

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail pandita.aakriti@gmail.com

Signature

Sunday, January 2, 2022

#### Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Nikhil Madhuripan Address 463 alton way

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail nikhilmadhuripan@gmail.com

Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Chad Creen Address 470 Yosemite Way Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** chadcreen@yahoo.com Signature Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Stephanie Creen Address 470 Yosemite Way Denver, Colorado, 80230 **E-mail** stephcollins4@yahoo.com Signature Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Leah May Address 473 Alton Way Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail leah.ann.may@gmail.com Signature

Wednesday, January 5, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Phillip May Address 473 Alton Way Denver, Colorado, 80230 **E-mail** Phillg\_08@hotmail.com Signature Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Victoria Naugle Address 480 Yosemite Way DENVER, CO, 80230 E-mail vnaugle@hotmail.com Signature Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Richard Ing Address 490 Yosemite Way Denver , CO , 80230 E-mail richard.ing@childrenscolorado.org Signature

Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Lisa Lipscomb Address 490 Yosemite Way Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail lipscomb.lisa@yahoo.com Signature Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Carlynn Martin Address 493 Alton Way Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** carlynnpt@gmail.com Signature Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Adrah Levin Address 354 Alton Way Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail adrahl@gmail.com Signature ap

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Amanda Newsome Address 372 yosemite way

Denver, 5, 80230

E-mail amandakshaw@gmail.com

Signature

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

## Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Britt Newsome Address 372 Yosemite Way

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail brittnewsome@gmail.com

Signature

Sunday, January 2, 2022

#### Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Benjamin Coan Address 393 Alton Way

Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail bcoan84@gmail.com

Signature

Ru

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Lynn Ceuleers Address 433 Alton Way Denver, CO, 80230-6530 **E-mail** ceuleers@gmail.com Signature J. Centers Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Lynn Ceuleers Address 433 Alton Way Denver, CO, 80230-6530 **E-mail** ceuleers@gmail.com Signature J. Centers Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Nick Rudolf Address 453 Alton Way Denver , CO, 80230 **E-mail** rudo0062@gmail.com Signature an a. w

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Molly Osadjan-Rudolf Address 453 Alton Way

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail molly.osadjan@gmail.com

Signature

Sunday, January 2, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Lesley Bevan Address 460 Yosemite Way

Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail lesleybevan@gmail.com

Signature

Sunday, January 2, 2022

#### Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Christopher Shank Address 460 Yosemite Way

Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** Shankdmd@gmail.com

Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Louise Helander Address 9330 E. 4th Place Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** louit@msn.com Signature Wednesday, January 5, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Ventzislav Karaivanov Address 9331 E 5th Ave Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** ventzi@hotmail.com Signature Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Cat Holmes Address 9340 E 4th Pl Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** cath0513@yahoo.com Signature

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Alix Peterson

Address 9451 E 5th Ave Denver, CO 80230

Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** alix@sinlesssun.com

Signature



Tuesday, January 4, 2022

#### Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Matt Schaeffer Address 9451 E 5th Ave, Denver

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail mattschaeffer80@hotmail.com

Signature



Tuesday, January 4, 2022

#### Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Tina Skewes Address 9555 E 3rd Pl

Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** tinab0714@gmail.com



Sunday, January 2, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Andreas Seltenhammer Address 9574 3rd pl

Denver, Co, 80230

E-mail spankyhammer@gmail.com

Signature



Sunday, January 2, 2022

#### Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Julie Seltenhammer Address 9574 E 3rd Place

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail spankyhammer@gmail.com

Signature



Tuesday, January 4, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name BILL AND KIM Eikenberry Address 9595 E 3rd Pl

Denver, CO, 80230

E-mail Kweikenberry@yahoo.com



Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Tricia Stumpf Address 9665 E. 3rd Ave Denver, CO, 80230 **E-mail** stumpf72@yahoo.com Signature Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Clare Lewis Address 320 Dallas Street Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail denverclare@gmail.com Signature Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Norman Schwab Address 323 Alton Way Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail naschwab@icloud.com Signature Noman Schweb

Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Joseph Burks Address 323 Alton Way Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail josephburks@me.com Signature Monday, January 3, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Patricia Fisher Address 332 Dallas Street Denver, Colorado , 80230 **E-mail** pfisher303@comcast.net Signature Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Sarah Broaden Address 332 Yosemite Way Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail sarah.broaden@yahoo.com Signature

Sunday, January 2, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Michael Broaden Address 332 Yosemite Way Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail mikebroaden@gmail.com Signature Wednesday, January 5, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Bob Fisher Address 332Dallas St Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail rgfisher304@gmail.com Signature Wednesday, January 5, 2022 Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard Name Robin Bioletti Address 343 Alton Way Denver, Colorado, 80230 **E-mail** maymom1@yahoo.com Signature

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

# Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Cam Morin Address 352 Yosemite Way

Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail macnirom@gmail.com

Signature

Monday, January 3, 2022

#### Opposition to rezoning of 8890 E. Lowry Boulevard

Name Joan Mangle Address 353 Alton Way

Denver, CO, 80230 E-mail jjmangle1@gmail.com

Signature

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