



September 6, 2019

Re: **Letter urging city officials to suspend plans to upzone historic University Way NE** ("The Ave")

Dear Mayor and members of the City Council,

As the candidates democratically selected by voters in August this year to represent District 4 (which includes the University District and the historic "Ave"), we agree on a very important policy matter affecting our district: the current City Council should indefinitely suspend its plan to upzone "The Ave".

Before giving further consideration of any upzones for the Ave, adequate time must be given for a thorough consideration **and** implementation of concrete measures to preserve the historic character of the Ave, its businesses, and existing low cost housing. In early 2017, when the Council approved a companion resolution ([#31732](#)), Councilmembers committed the City to addressing these concerns before returning to any consideration of an Ave upzone. This, we both believe, should be the priority: fulfilling this commitment.

Because we disagree on other topics and bring different experiences to the table, it makes our agreement on indefinite suspension of an Ave upzone a powerful statement. It's also a powerful reflection of what we've both heard on the campaign trail from many voters. So again, until one of us is seated and concrete measures are implemented to preserve the Ave's character, businesses, and low-income housing we ask you to suspend plans to upzone the Ave.

There are plenty of other issues for this City Council to address and prioritize especially as we approach budget season and for the remainder of the year to be sure.

Thank you for your consideration and each of us looks forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Shaun Scott [signed electronically]

Shaun Scott, District 4 Candidate

Alex Pedersen, District 4 Candidate

cc: Jenny Durkan, Mayor of Seattle
Lisa Herbold, Seattle City Councilmember, District 1
Bruce Harrell, Seattle City Councilmember, District 2
Kshama Sawant, Seattle City Councilmember, District 3
Abel Pacheco, Seattle City Councilmember, District 4
Debora Juarez, Seattle City Councilmember, District 5
Mike O'Brien, Seattle City Councilmember, District 6
Sally Bagshaw, Seattle City Councilmember, District 7
Teresa Mosqueda, Seattle City Councilmember, Position 8
Lorena González, Seattle City Councilmember, Position 9
Sam Assefa, Director, Office of Planning & Community Development
Geoff Wentlandt, Land Use Planning Manager, Office of Planning & Community Development