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November 9, 2015

The Honorable Joseph P. Riley, Jr. and Charleston City Council Members
80 Broad Street
Charleston, SC 29401-0304

Dear Mayor Riley and City Council Members,

We are writing to you today to ask for your support on November 24 to respect property rights and protect the integrity of City government. It is imperative for the future of Charleston that you deny the recommendation by the Planning Commission to downzone all 3X parcels on the peninsula. With the growth of our area, many citizens are watching this issue closely as it may set a precedent for the region.

You have the power to stop this unprecedented action and send a strong message to the community that their investment is safe in the city of Charleston.

The Trident CEO Council is a group of executives from the Tri-County Region employing in excess of 10,000 associates in the local community, advocating a culture to **STAND FOR PROGRESS** in the Lowcountry.


Our CEO Council supports issues that can improve the Lowcountry. Per our website www.westandforprogress.com we **STAND** for Improved Infrastructure, Economic Development, Quality Job Growth, Education and Responsible Government, to name a few.

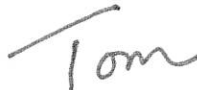
As you are aware, the City Planning Commission has initiated a potential change to downzone certain properties on the peninsula that will negatively impact many economic commitments that have been made and are planned for these properties. We are concerned that the ongoing effort for future economic development in our region could be negatively impacted and smart investors may shy away from the area if one of its leading municipalities does not honor its past commitments.

The citizens of our region value the importance of a predictable and stable environment to conduct business and invest. While most expect a certain degree of risk, these types of short term surprise changes in policy, driven by special interests groups, will have long-lasting effects on businesses willing to trust the process.

We urge you not to approve the proposed down-zoning, **STAND FOR PROGRESS** and continue to honor the City's current zoning laws.

Thank you,


Marc Fetten
Chairman



Tom Leonard
Executive Director