

Sergeant Brent Halford
1289 Hemphill Street #151
Fort Worth, Texas 76104

February 26, 2014

Planning and Development Department
City of Fort Worth
Fort Worth, Texas

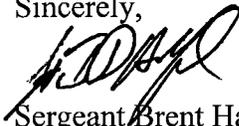
City Hall,

The purpose of this letter is to support the alley closure application letter written by Richard Ricetti on February 13, 2014 for the alley behind his property at 2100 Travis Avenue. I fully support the property owners' desire to close the alley between the properties that they own on both sides of the street. I am writing this from the professional opinion of having worked in this area since 2005. I was also a burglary detective for this area for 3 years. These alleys serve as areas of refuge for criminals to escape detection while casing for victims. This has impeded the ability of the Bastion restaurant and apartment complex to fully develop their business. There is a constant stream of criminals walking through the middle of their property. This has even caused conflict when these people encountered our own Police and their Explorer volunteer groups.

My primary recommendation is to plat the alley between the Bastion's properties to the Bastion. This would increase tax revenue for the city by making the Bastion's property slightly larger and more valuable. This would doubly improve city budget by reducing the maintenance cost for trimming, paving, and otherwise maintaining the alley since it would become part of a single parking lot for the Bastion. The Bastion, as the owner of that sliver of property, would become responsible for maintenance and care, something I know they are excited at the prospect of. A fence around the new parking lot would cut off transient criminal traffic through the area and make a safer place for the customers of the Bastion.

If there is any way that I can facilitate the closure of this nuisance alleyway, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Sergeant Brent Halford
Central Division Neighborhood Police Officer Supervisor