

Our Fight Goes On

September 14, 2015

Greetings to our friends, supporters and family – So much has happened in the past couple of weeks that we wanted to provide an update. Earlier this week, we made an official **request to the City, asking that they remove the blight designation from our property**, particularly in light of the announcement that the Glendale 180 project does not include our property.

As the letter states, “retaining the power to condemn our property sends a clear message that there is intent to do so, and destroys our family’s ability to be confident in our...plans.”

So far we have not received any response. We will keep our phones on and keep you posted.

We built our family business from the ground up -- with our father, our children and soon our grandchildren and great grandchildren -- learning to be successful and ethical business people. We want to continue the family business. Maybe we are a bit of a rarity these days, and our business may just be a rug shop to many people who haven’t been in our store before, but to us and to our thousands of customers it is a family effort and a way of life. Once you enter our store, you become part of our family.

We have no objection to working with the City to develop our property in a way that’s best for the community. That’s a right that other landowners in Colorado enjoy; we just do not want the threat of condemnation hanging over any land or business owner’s head. We want to take the City of Glendale at its word that it won’t condemn, but we are not naïve, and that is why we wanted to make an official request to have the City remove the designation.

Here is the letter we delivered to City Council on September 1st.

Dear City Council Members and Mayor Dunafon,

We are writing to you to ask that you remove the blight designation placed on the seven parcels of land we have owned in Glendale since 2006.

On July 22, 2015, the City told us in a meeting there was no plan to condemn our land. Today, you released revised plans for Glendale 180 that excludes us from your revised vision. Thank you for that. But a cloud of condemnation still hangs over our heads as long as the blight designation remains.

Mere promises by the city to leave our property alone are not binding. Retaining the power to condemn our property sends a clear message that there is intent to do so, and destroys our family’s ability to be confident in our investment and development plans.

Since July, we have met with a number of developers, who have stated that the blight designation must be lifted before we can begin serious work to redevelop

our land. If you are not going to condemn our property, then the blight designation must be removed.

We request that the City provide us a written response to this letter by September 15, 2015. We ask you to pass a resolution removing the blight designation so we can finalize our plans in a way that aligns with the Glendale 180 construction as much as possible. Then we can complete discussions with interested developers secure in the knowledge that Glendale will not pursue condemnation in the future.

We love Glendale and want to be a part of its future. Thank you for your consideration.

This fight has been and continues to be about our right to be treated fairly as a business and private property owner in Colorado, with the right to develop one's property with vision and concern for the community. Our fight goes on! Look for another update from us soon.