

MidTown, Inc. Position Statement
Hilton Property Development Plans
May 17, 2018

While MidTown, Inc., supports in concept both high quality and appropriately located high density development and affordable housing throughout Midtown, it opposes at this time any high density or commercial development on the Hilton property because of potential adverse impact on the historic, single-family streetscapes along 15th Street and Hilton Avenue, which comprise two of the three borders of that property.

We measure all of our projects, programs, initiatives, and the positions we take in the community, against our founding mission: ***MidTown, Inc. works to sustain and enhance the neighborhoods and businesses within MidTown Columbus through education and advocacy with respect to community, conservation and diversity.***

With regard to the Hilton property, we have listened to community debate and the heartfelt and reasoned concerns engendered by any proposed development of the property. We have wrestled with our organization's advocacy for quality affordable housing and added residential density to create vibrant, diverse places; and concerns about the effects of any high-density residential or commercial development of this particular property on the surrounding historic neighborhoods.

At this time, in addition to opposing the proposed high density development on this particular site, MidTown, Inc. also opposes any other future development or rezoning of the Hilton property—commercial or residential—without the opportunity to assess site plans, buffers and plantings, and design details that conform to guidelines set forth through the existing Tree Ordinance and the Board of Historic and Architectural Review. The organization reserves the privilege of re-evaluating a position on the property's long-term development with a more complete understanding of any developer's proposed plans and their impact on extant historic neighborhoods.