July 2, 2012

Dear Mayor Perrin and Members of the City Council,

My name is Wendy Jones. I live at 3207 Maplewood Terrace. My husband Allan is in attendance tonight but unfortunately I was not able to be there for the hearing concerning the request to add to the additions to the commercial property in question located on Johnson Avenue between Bill's Fresh Market and Hilltop Eyecare.

Allan and I bought our house on Maplewood Terrace almost three years ago. We moved back to Jonesboro six and a half years ago after being away for five years in Missouri. We love Jonesboro. And we love our home and our sweet little neighborhood. We lived with Allan's mom and dad; Henry and Julia Jones for three and a half years while we waited for our home in Missouri to sell and while we waited until the perfect home and neighborhood became available . Our two teenage boys and little girl were thrilled when we found this home. In town, yet secluded, a dead end street, and sweet and friendly neighbors. Even though Bill's Fresh Market is literally in backyard, we were at first unconcerned with the goings-on. After being in residence for a time, it became clear having this kind of commercial development this close poses challenges to the peacefulness of a neighborhood. Trash trucks; come and go, delivery trucks, car and store alarms, teenage parties, parking lot cleaner trucks, even a gunfight not too long ago have strained our ability to relax at home at times.

With that said, and having been through the experience, all is tempered at least by a chain link fence, a privacy fence, and some trees for screening and the fact remains; we love our house. I am writing and requesting that you will agree that enough is enough! I implore you to please help retain the integrity of our established and beloved neighborhood. At least help retain what is left of it. And help to spare our neighbors who would border the property in question with the headaches that we endure.

At the crook of the lane at Maplewood Terrace is the backend of the parcel Grayson Investments wishes to sell to perhaps a fast food restaurant, a private club, or maybe an indoor shooting range or a pet lodging facility where dogs would undoubtedly spend the wee hours of the night barking and howling. It actually infiltrates our little corner of the world by its boundaries reaching directly into the neighborhood. This parcel in no way would back up to residents in a benign way. No amount of trees, fences, or landscaping would mask a commercial development Grayson Developments are wanting to market to.

Please help us to retain the original list of uses agreed upon by the Circuit Court in 2006. We all love Jonesboro! We all want to see Jonesboro grow and prosper, but not at the expense of established neighborhoods and the residents who pay taxes and live here.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Wendy Jones; Wife of Allan Jones, Mother to Weston, John Henry, and Allie

3207 Maplewood Terrace

And Ridgefield Christian Jr. High Science Teacher