

**December 7, 2020**

## **Developers, City Hall conspire against neighborhoods**

Regarding the apartment project proposed for the former Giant Eagle site near German Village ("Controversial apartments clear one zoning hurdle", Wednesday): Schumacher, German Village and Merion Village residents have spoken out overwhelmingly against this non-conforming monstrosity. And they also say that they are not against re-development of the site. They want responsible development that conforms with the character of the area. Is that really too much to ask for? Pizutti doesn't need 263 units to get fat on this project. This is just typical greed.

Like all other developers in Columbus, Pizutti is playing the decades old game of initially presenting an outlandish development proposal knowing damn good and well that it will receive resistance from neighbors. They like other developers then begin to reduce their initial ridiculous proposed heights, density, and parking after two or three meetings. This gives the false appearance that they are working with the neighborhood and making concessions.

I continue to be sickened by those who favor such insensitive and thoughtless developments, especially in historic neighborhoods. They are blinded by greed and selfishness, while riding on the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's unsubstantiated population increase projections that were purposely presented to help validate developers and city hall politicians to continue ramming high density developments down our throats. And this proposal does nothing to help address the real housing crisis in Columbus for low-to-moderate-income residents.

*Joe Motil, Columbus*