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Planning & Development Review

November 18, 2014

To: Mayor Leffingwell, Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole and Council Members
Martinez, Riley, Tovo, Morrison and Spelman

Ballet Austin and our Governmental Relations Committee understands and respects that those living downtown may have concerns relative to the impact of sound and lighting associated with overnight concrete pours that would benefit from further discussion /remediation. However, a decision by City Council to approve the amendment, thereby stopping the work at 2 am, pushes a significant part of this development project into the workday, with unplanned congestion, traffic, and significant potential pedestrian safety issues.

This possibility is cause of grave concern for Ballet Austin and the 6,000 children, families and Seniors accessing our Butler Dance Education Center facilities over the course of 8-12 hours a day, seven days a week. The lack of "life safety" planning to ensure that young children are well protected from the enormity of this unexpected change may potentially bring up to 500 concrete trucks per week to each of the city streets around Ballet Austin during daytime hours when the streets are most populated. A further impact would be the ability of our 80 employees (full-time professional dancers, teachers, musicians, crew and administrative staff) to access our facility to get to work.

Ballet Austin agrees time is needed to consider the full potential impact on area businesses, and we **do not** support the approval of this amendment.
Respectfully,

Cookie G. Ruiz

Cookie G. Ruiz, CFRE
Executive Director
Ballet Austin
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