

Madam Mayor and Commissioners,

I respectfully request that the Commission carefully review the two proposals (RFP 26-001 & RFP26-003) submitted for the revitalization of Mallory Square. The plan presented by Hayes Robertson Group appears thoughtfully designed to attract more visitors and encourage them to spend time in the space. It includes features such as shaded areas, a splash pad, enhanced landscaping, and a sculpture garden, all of which contribute to a more inviting and engaging public environment.

By comparison, the Tropical Shell and Gifts proposal seems primarily focused on expanding its existing footprint. Based on the submitted materials, the design includes an iron fence surrounding the buildings, which would effectively separate these areas from the public space and introduce paid access to areas that were previously open to the public.

This approach does not appear to offer the sense of innovation or renewed appeal needed to draw visitors back to Mallory Square. Revitalization is especially critical currently, as a noticeable decline in vendors, performers and visitors highlights the need for a more dynamic and inclusive vision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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