

United Residents of Euclid Beach
Euclid Beach Mobile Home Park
North Collinwood, Cleveland, 44110

August 9th, 2022

Matt Zone, Senior Vice President & Director of Thriving Communities
Western Reserve Land Conservancy
812 Huron Road E. Suite 840
Cleveland, OH 44115

To Matt Zone, Rich Cochran, Christine McIntosh, and the Western Reserve Land Conservancy,

We, the residents of the Euclid Beach Mobile Home Park, ask you to respect our rights to live and thrive. The Western Reserve Land Conservancy has purchased the land beneath our community, which has been the home to many people for decades, and has yet to release their plan for its use.

Since then, there has been a great deal of confusion and uncertainty about our future. The Western Reserve Land Conservancy has a unique opportunity to help our community thrive and grow into an affordable, safe, and comfortable place; or to act as yet another out of touch developer, trampling over the homes and lives of locals in the name of vague promises of “progress.”

We don't need more high-rises. We don't need more parks. The parks we do have are being neglected, and not properly patrolled. Rather than turning our homes into yet another park, you should take care of the parks that exist. Our trailer park is the safest place around, we should have more places like this, not fewer.

We ask the following:

1. No one who wants to stay in their home should ever be forced out of their home, as long as they treat their community with respect and pay their lot fees. Forced displacement hurts everyone, especially children, the elderly, and people with disabilities or illness. **Anyone involved in the planning of North Collinwood should prevent anything that could lead to us being displaced from our community.**
2. Any changes to our housing will significantly change our lives, and could require planning and preparation on our parts. Any relevant changes to our housing or policies should not occur without a **3 year minimum notice** containing detailed and concrete information.
3. Our trailers are not just trailers, they're our homes. Many of us have spent a lot of money on upgrades, improvements, and repairs to the homes we own. It would be unfair and unjust to take those from us without proper compensation. Bluebook values are not an accurate assessment of value. Moving is expensive and cumbersome, and many homes are not in a state to be moved, and the uncertainty surrounding the future of the neighborhood makes it difficult to sell a home. We are in some of the most affordable housing in the neighborhood, and in Cleveland, and moving anywhere else would almost certainly result in increased expenses. Anyone who wishes to relocate should be given **reasonable and generous payments** and assistance, for selling their home, moving expenses, and future increased rent.
4. Park maintenance should be upheld as a priority, keeping safety, security, cleanliness, and day-to-day quiet enjoyment a priority. **There is currently only one person employed for maintenance of the entire park**, you should hire another at a full-time fair wage, and maintenance workers should be paid

in a timely fashion to ensure they stay staffed. Snow plowing should be performed in a timely manner in winter months. You should also hire a security guard and return to having the booth at the front of the park manned, along with installing cameras at the entrance, to prevent unwanted persons from entering our park.

5. **Lot fee payments should be easy to make and transparent.** All forms of payment previously accepted should continue to be accepted, invoices should be clearly labeled, contain itemized charges, and delivered both physically and digitally, and receipts for payments made should be readily given.
6. Any plan put forth should include access to necessities such as **grocery stores and bus stations**, in addition to preserving our homes where they are.
7. Communication from Western Reserve Land Conservancy and Blank Family Management should be direct, timely, and transparent. Information should be delivered and attainable from multiple mediums, and meet language and accessibility needs
8. We residents should be involved in every step of the planning process, and our needs and recommendations should be placed first and foremost. No one knows what we need better than we do. **The only people who should be deciding what happens to Euclid Beach Mobile Home Park are the residents of Euclid Beach Mobile Home Park.** We are the ones affected, invested, and most impacted by changes to our community. The Planning Committee has not done anything of substance, resident involvement in focus groups and commissions have been by invite only, and secretive and arbitrary. Any committee, commission, focus group, or any other group discussing our futures should always have an open invitation to all residents, that is communicated clearly, concisely, directly, and with sufficient advanced notice. **The community meetings that have happened so far have felt like you are talking at us, not with us**, and not listening in a meaningful way or giving answers to questions.

We look forward to your response agreeing to the above asks in writing in the next 3 business days.

Signed,

United Residents of Euclid Beach