

# **BURNT**

IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH  
CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT,  
BUSINESS, AND ACADEMIA

20 April 2009

Ed Owens  
Director, Waterfront Development  
Nashville Metropolitan and Housing Agency

RE: Creation of a Riverfront 'Citizens' Park

Dear Director Owens:

As we discussed recently, the BURNT Board is highly concerned that a 12 acre, downtown Riverfront parcel sits behind a six foot fence topped with barb wire. This is not a green use of space or conducive to positive outdoor experiences for Nashvillians or our visitors. It is particularly ironic that this site once hosted the downtown incinerator which citizens rose up to close down.

We ask: "MDHA, take down that fence." We believe this will contribute greatly to the enjoyment and use of downtown. BURNT would like to work with other citizens and groups to raise money for benches, trails, and tables.

This could be made clear that this is a "Temporary Park" pending final development. Some mix of light commercial development is called for but that does not preclude using most of the site for open site.

We believe fencing in with barbed wire topped fence prime riverfront space which should be open for recreation, kite flying, biking, walking, and simple enjoyment does not contribute to Nashville's image or reality.

We appreciate the opportunity we had to discuss this with you

Bruce Wood  
President

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Vice president

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