

April 10, 2006

## Friends of Mandell Park Position on Metro Rail on Richmond

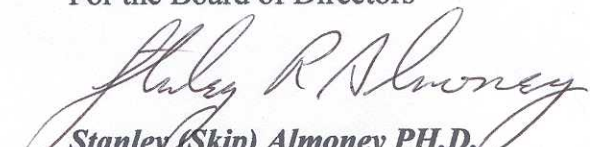
One of the current issues facing the Friends of Mandell Park is the possibility that Metro will build a light rail line on Richmond Avenue along the north side of Mandell Park. The position taken by the Board of Directors of Friends of Mandell Park is to support rail on Richmond Avenue in the area of Mandell Park provided that a station is located within the 1400-1500 block of Richmond Avenue.

It is also our position that having a station located in the 1400-1500 block of Richmond would be very beneficial to not only Mandell Park, but also to the Menil Museum, St Thomas University, and local businesses.

We also believe that the rail system can and should be built with concern for the aesthetics of Richmond Avenue and that every effort should be made to design the rail system to preserve the trees and plants in both the esplanades and along the sidewalks and to make the sidewalks more walker friendly.

We recognize that there are many differing views about this subject. Our belief is that by providing our input and by respecting the ideas put forward by all stakeholders, Metro will be able to develop a rail plan that will meet the needs of its riders, maintain the viability of local businesses, enhance the beauty of the areas it services and increase the livability of those living near the train.

For the Board of Directors



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