Lisa Thomas Gill
541 Shirley Place
Valdosta, GA 31605

March 13, 2026

Matt Martin
City of Valdosta Planning Director
PO box 1125
Valdosta, GA 31603-1125

Ref: File VA-2026-02

Mr. Martin,

I would like to formally object to the rezoning to multi-family residential (R-M) from Single-Family Residential (R-15) on File VA-2026-02.

My home located at 541 Shirley Place on the corner of Lake Laurie Drive and Shirley Place, is in very close proximity to the property under consideration. I have been a resident of this neighborhood for approximately 30 years and have witnessed firsthand the impact of continued development in this area. Over time, traffic along Cherry Creek Road (Staten Road) has increased significantly. This two-lane road already experiences substantial congestion, particularly since the construction of Sallas Mahone School. Morning and afternoon traffic is routinely backed up and the addition of approximately 64 residential units-potentially introducing more than 120 additional vehicles-would further worsen conditions and hinder traffic flow.

Beyond traffic concerns, increased noise pollution and added strain on public services must also be considered. Another nearby property has recently been approved for development of approximately 30 new homes, which will further affect the area. That subdivision is still under construction, so the full impact has yet to be realized; however, it will undoubtedly contribute to an already congested environment as residents commute to and from work.

The introduction of multi-family housing is inconsistent with the established character and long-standing vision of our subdivision. The original covenants expressly prohibit such development. When I purchased my lot and built my home three decades ago, I relied on these covenants and the expectation that the surrounding area would consist of upscale single-family homes of at least 2,000 square feet. At no time was it suggested that condominiums or apartment complexes might one day be constructed adjacent to this