



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Mayoral candidate Peter Shahid releases statement on Tuesday's City Council vote on the Sumar Street site**

Charleston City Councilmember Peter Shahid, candidate for mayor, released the following statement regarding City Council's failure to pass option one for the Sumar Street site at Tuesday's meeting.

“The Pig’ site is dead... again. For a second time, option one for Sumar Street did not pass City Council. Why? Because the current mayor, once again, has failed to lead and close the deal.

“The Sumar Street property has been desolate for ten years. I have strongly advocated for a first-rate civic center and an outdoor area with green space where families and neighbors can gather.

“As chairperson of the West Ashley Revitalization Commission and the councilmember representing this area, I have successfully communicated and collaborated with citizens and community stakeholders as we engaged in the process of redeveloping this site. I have always been honest and transparent with residents about what is and what is not possible with this project.

“The current mayor, on the other hand, provided misplaced optimism to the community at his June 8 meeting. He gave residents hope that option one, with an expensive underground garage, would be approved by Council, even after it had failed once and knowing he didn't have the votes for its adoption. The plan to simply provide a civic/cultural center and open green space for citizens to congregate has widespread support.

“I ask for your vote on Nov. 7. I promise I will ‘Rethink Charleston’ and put residents first. I will work with the community and City Council members to get things done.”

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