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**From:** Brigitte Pickersgill [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 23 November 2021 00:13

**To:** PCU <PCU@communities.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Support for the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames (Twickenham Riverside) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021.

Chris & Brigitte Pickersgill

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Secretary of State for Levelling Up

Housing and Communities

23 Stephenson Street  
Birmingham, B2 4B

17<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**The London Borough of Richmond upon Thames (Twickenham Riverside) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021.**

Dear Sir,

We write in **Support** of the Compulsory Purchase of Land and New Rights in Twickenham Riverside.

As long-term Twickenham residents we totally support the removal of parking from our Riverside in order to create a new heart for the town, fully pedestrianised with a public events space, children's playground and more importantly a real landscaped garden. This much-needed revitalisation of the Riverside will make Twickenham a better place to live, work, play and visit.

We signed a petition to this effect a few years ago, petition which got over 3,000 signatures.

After an almost 40 years wait, we will ultimately gain a whole new buzzing area where people can

enjoy safely the full beauty of the riverside, its much-needed new gardens and amenities, whilst improving the links between the town & the river.

We, together with many many residents, strongly believe that the Council's RIBA architectural competition set those principles clearly and we fully support the winning bid by Hopkins Architects.

The brief meant that a solution for the whole of the riverside, which included the Diamond Jubilee Gardens, had to be found.

Sadly, DJG is a soulless, almost derelict excuse of a garden with the area mostly concreted. It has "lovely" views over the river Thames.... once you passed the rows of parked cars!!!

We understand that in the Hopkins proposal, the new Gardens will be larger by more than 500 square metres and that it will be a proper landscaped garden with real grass and flowers.

The new (deep soil) gardens will also go all the way down to the river with lovely south-facing lawned terraces, many trees, shrubs and flowers which DJG totally lacks of due to been built on concrete rubble!

The proposed Children playground will be double the size and with updated fixtures.

There will also be a restaurant/pub and a Café with direct and unobstructed River views & access.

With the improved larger space directly in front of the river it will lend itself to seasonal markets and events throughout the year.

The new created area will become a "Riverside Park", visible from King Street (Water Lane will be widened), safely accessible to all (wheelchairs & pushchairs) and from several entry points and with no cars allowed, it will become a safe and natural link to the newly pedestrianised Church Street.

It will be a healthy, safe and secured space for the all residents' young & old alike to enjoy.

We now understand that the council sees a CPO on DJG necessary to bring The Riverside Park to its residents and to our many visitors, decision that we wholly support.

**We therefore appeal to you on behalf of the majority of Twickenham residents to uphold this CPO.**

Yours sincerely,

Chris & Brigitte Pickersgill

