Andy Paves

As a newer Skyway resident, I am writing in full support of Gardner Global and this project. In tracking the discussions/forums on this project, my impression is that some may view GG and this project as just another outside (the neighborhood at least), greedy developer whose only concerned about profit with little to no regard for the community. I totally empathize with concerns about gentrification/displacement - I was forced out of apartments 2x by the same company that intended (and made it clear on their website) to raise rent unreasonably high so people move out, renovate, and re-rent to "maximize profit." (The fact that the company was bankrolled by the CEO's father made it even harder to swallow).

What I know about GG is that they are the exact opposite and are hoping to buck the trends that many are justifiably worried about. They are rooted in this city, truly committed to investing in and giving back to underserved and too often neglected communities, and working towards affordable housing and environmental justice. I would recommend looking in to some of their other work as evidence of what they are all about (eg this story - https://www.king5.com/amp/article/news/local/black-history/develop-seattle-central-district-black-businesses/281-e251078d-7481-4a31-a9d1-83582c682879) . I believe this project will provide housing and economic opportunities/access that are not currently present in Skyway - eg affordable housing, space for local small businesses, employment opportunities. I also look forward to the potential having a revamped and walkable retail/town center that is near to me and my family. Finally, it is absolutely necessary to clear the contamination at the site. It has been neglected for so long, as is often the case in primarily BIPOC, lower income neighborhoods. Without GG looking in to it, who knows how much longer it would have been overlooked. And I trust that they will oversee the clean up with necessary care and attention with the community's safety in mind (otherwise the project would be DOA)