

## **Bowden (King), Anissa**

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**From:** Allen, Amanda on behalf of CityClerk  
**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2010 4:31 PM  
**To:** Bowden (King), Anissa  
**Cc:** Beaudry, Jacqueline  
**Subject:** FW: Support of Zingerman's Proposed Deli Expansion & Brownfield Redevelopment Plan

FYI-Council communication

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**From:** Lou Belcher [mailto:belcherld@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2010 4:14 PM  
**To:** Hieftje, John; Smith, Sandi; Briere, Sabra; Rapundalo, Stephen; Derezinski, Tony; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Kunselman, Stephen; Higgins, Marcia; Teall, Margie; Hohnke, Carsten; Anglin, Mike  
**Cc:** CityClerk; kyle@a2ychamber.org  
**Subject:** Support of Zingerman's Proposed Deli Expansion & Brownfield Redevelopment Plan

### **Support of Zingerman's Proposed Deli Expansion & Brownfield Redevelopment Plan**

**TO:**

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**COPY:**

[cityclerk@a2gov.org](mailto:cityclerk@a2gov.org); [kyle@a2ychamber.org](mailto:kyle@a2ychamber.org)

**MESSAGE:**

Dear Mayor Hieftje and Ann Arbor City Council Members,

I am writing to express my very strong support for Zingerman's proposed deli expansion and brownfield redevelopment plan.

Zingerman's is an anchor of our central core as well as one of Ann Arbor's iconic attractions. I well remember that one of my first jobs as a new city councilmember in 1974 was to help Chuck Muir navigate the hurdles of converting the unused and junk filled railroad station into the Gandy Dancer over the objections of some members of the local historical district commission. Look at the number of people that have enjoyed the station over the past 34 years. Zingerman's too will be able to attract many new patrons in the next 34 years with this renovation. I, and many of my colleagues, have reviewed the plans for this redevelopment and they are, in my opinion, a marked improvement over the existing property.

Historical preservation is a relative thing as the Lord Mayor of our sister city, Tübingen pointed out as we looked at the old greyhound bus station on Huron street and he asked how old it was (as it was being considered as an historical landmark) I said about 50 years old. He said "we don't even consider a building historical unless it is at least 500 years old" (of course Tübingen is 932 years old).

Please remember that today's "new" Zingerman's will be the historical icon in 50 years not 500.

And as Ann Arbor's oldest surviving mayor I believe I have earned the right to put another two cents in the pot. We created the DDA over 30 years ago to insure that the central core of the city would always have the means to remain strong and vibrant. We saved the Michigan theater and helped create the Hands-On-Museum and the Summer Festival. You now have the responsibility to plan and execute the future of our central core as it morphs from retail into an office and entertainment center. Every project you consider for the core will have a long term impact as those mentioned above have had. And one more favor.....in addition to approving the Zingerman's site plan.....please don't continue to use the DDA's tax revenue as a general fund supplement. And one last thing.....Thank you for your service to our city...it is a tough job  
Lou Belcher