

**From:** Jill Halpern [<mailto:jhalpern@umich.edu>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 16, 2013 8:57 AM  
**To:** Kowalski, Matthew  
**Subject:** proposed rezoning

Dear Mr. Kowalski,

Good morning. There has been a thread circulated on our Lower Burns' Park neighborhood e-mailing list about the proposed rezoning adjacent to our neighborhood. I've lived in Burns Park for some fifteen years, first as a renter and more recently as a homeowner on Granger and really appreciate the diversity of our neighborhood. I'm also a long-time lecturer at the U who genuinely enjoys spending time with students both at school and in the neighborhood-- when they are respectful of the community as a whole. However, the truth is that unfortunately, laws notwithstanding, some students who live down near the Athletic Campus often engage in disruptive and destructive behaviors (wild parties, screaming strings of misogynistic curses in the middle of the night, breaking beer bottles on the sidewalk, and so forth) with little sense of how their actions affect those around them. One morning, my next-door-neighbor found shattered glass on the front lawn where his two-year-old son liked to walk barefoot. On occasion talking works; I also bought earplugs which sometimes do the trick. It's telling to know that more than once, though, I've had students respond to complaints about outrageous behavior by saying something along the lines of, "You chose to live in this neighborhood; you knew what you were getting into." We have a delicate ecosystem here of students, very long time residents, and young families and I truly welcome the mix-- minus the wild partiers, at least. However, to maintain the balance, it feels important not to increase the density of student housing along the periphery. The concern is that even if Lower Burns' Park proper isn't officially rezoned, if the concentration of boisterous students to the north grows too large, this neighborhood will be looked upon as undesirable for young families and older adults and will effectively be rezoned as student rental with or without an official city action. As it is, I'm about to lose as neighbors dear friends on Woodlawn who can't imagine raising their small children across the street from the wild partiers that currently occupy nearby rentals. In light of these concerns, I hope that you and the other planners will consider maintaining the current zoning at our neighborhood's border.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jill Halpern