

Ann Arbor City Planning Commission
Business Meeting
Tuesday May 5, 2009

Letter in Support of Zoning Redbud Nature Area as Public Land District

Please read during time allocated for Audience Participation.

To whom it may concern:

The Redbud Nature Area is a public park I greatly value. Considering the location, topography, and ecology of the nature area, I encourage the City Planning Commission advise the City Council to zone this land as a public park.

The Redbud Nature Area is a frequently used nature trail in the center of a neighborhood bounded by three major roads (Washtenaw, Packard, Platt/ Huron). I personally walk my dog in the on the trail five to seven times a week. I regularly meet other residents using the park for similar recreational purposes. There is no alternative nature area within walking distance of this densely populated neighborhood.

The presence of a safe and maintained nature area provides far greater benefit to current and potential future residents than additional residential development to the interior of this densely populated neighborhood. Our neighborhood already has one of the highest rates of houses for sale in the city; there is no benefit to be gained from new townhouse development.

The steep grade of the land and the presence of a Malletts Creek would make development of the land costly. The Redbud Nature Area contains the largest concentration of Redbud trees in the park system. These ecological factors provide make this five acre piece of land feel much larger and more secluded than its acreage.

I strongly support zoning that will advance the conservation of the park. I am interested in making donations of labor or finances to preserve this natural resource for our community.

With appreciation,

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