

Subject: Special exception use support letters
To: Max Finkbeiner <maxlfinkbeiner@gmail.com>

Zachary Gong
905 Wildt Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

To Whom It May Concern,

I wanted to write you concerning the recent relocation of the Treetown Crossfit facilities, now located on Wildt Street in Ann Arbor. I have just recently begun attending Treetown as a paying member, the reasoning for doing so falling primarily on its convenient location (within a block of my own home on Wildt Street). Obviously, I am quite happy with the services that the gym provides, and more so the business fosters an amazing community of other local residents. Beyond my growing appreciation for this community, I must say that Treetown provides a welcome amenity on our street, not only to those who (like myself) actually attend the gym, but as a hub of reasonably-scaled pedestrian presence on my block.

Our particular portion of Wildt Street is wholly isolated from Kerrytown by the immediate presence of the freight railroad tracks that run adjacent to the street. I feel really lucky to have been blessed with the great neighbors that I have, but it has been great to have an additional presence on the block. The previous tenants of [Max, add address here] seemed to be a totally isolated business that in no way added to the street life or vibrancy of my immediate neighborhood. Treetown is quite the opposite: it provides a welcome community-based presence on the block and aligns well with any notion of a quality local business. Treetown presents itself as a welcoming, "open door" business in a location that previously hosted a very closed-off and eye sore business. Treetown also conducts an incredibly conscious light and noise pollution practice, and unlike other businesses of its type has so far been an incredibly conscientious neighbor to the rest of us.

If Treetown were to instead conduct itself as an aesthetic, congestion, or disruptive presence I would be placed in an awkward position as both a paying member and direct neighbor. However, this is definitely not the case; instead, it has been a treat to have them as new neighbors, and any marginal increase (2-6 cars per hour) in parked traffic on a street that already hosts erratic driving from Summit and Sunset Streets is completely insignificant.

Thank you,
Zach

Residence: 921 Robin Rd 48103 (part of Upper Water Hill / Vesper Heights) just off Brookes
Resident: Joe Formicola

Profile:

1 wife active in the community, 2 kids in grade school at Ann Arbor Open, 1 in high school at Rudolf Steiner

Owner East Summit LLC: owns business property 325 East Summit Street, Ann Arbor, 48104

Owner Caelynx LLC: engineering company and employer with headquarters at 325 East Summit.

Fast track award winner from Ann Arbor Spark six years running

In 2011/12 rennovated 921 Robin from dilapidated 1950 ranch to 3500sq ft two story residence, improving Ann Arbor tax base

Daily, 1 mile pedestrian commute between home and office up/down Summit Street – I do this regularly, even last winter!

Discussion:

As my profile indicates, I have made a significant investment in this unique area of Ann Arbor, paying taxes for 2 buildings and employing 10 people in Ann Arbor alone. I have done this for the lifestyle this location offers my family with quick access to downtown, Argo, and Bird Hills (not to mention the great community we find in Upper Water Hill and Water Hill).

My profile also shows a man with little free time on his hands – the three kids and the business too... It's clear I need to optimize timing for anything I do for myself.

Crossfit Treetown's location cannot be matched for me - directly between my home and office and directly on my pedestrian commute! Best of all, the physical training I get at Crossfit Treetown has increased my quality of life (just ask my wife).

Crossfit Treetown is an immeasurably valuable asset to me as a community member – ranking up there with all the reasons I came here in the first place. I believe Crossfit Treetown may become one of those well known neighborhood gems in Ann Arbor, like Knight's Market, Washtenaw Dairy, Jefferson Market, etc.

Let it stay, don't take it away!

Respectfully,

Joe Formicola

325 East Summit
Ann Arbor MI 48104
(734) 786-3721 office
(734) 678-8556 cell
(734) 786-1508 fax
www.caelynx.com

Joe:

I live at 800 Edward Street. Crossfit Treetown is right behind my house. I haven't been affected by any noise or traffic. In fact, I didn't realize it was open until you told me.

Randy Marlow

Hey Joe,

I like the gym, and even thought about joining it (but ultimately decided not to because I prefer solo workouts). My house is the bright blue house directly across from the entrance and I have not noticed increase traffic. What I have noticed is that someone placed no parking signs along Wildt Street (about 6-9 months ago). I have no idea if these were placed by the city or some homeowner but I was not notified that they were eliminating parking on Wildt until I saw the signs. I dislike this because I have a single wide driveway that holds only 2 cars so if I have someone over, they now have nowhere to park :(.

Anyways, here is the letter you requested.

Residence: 117 West Summit St (across from Crossfit Treetown)
Resident: Sam Koch

Discussion:

I have no issue with the Crossfit Treetown location, which is across the street from my house. I have not been affected by noise or traffic. I like the idea of having a neighborhood gym. Also, I would like to get parking back all along Wildt Street. It was removed last year and has eliminated by ability to have friends over.

Thanks,

Sam Koch
EDP CAE
Toyota Technical Center
1555 Woodridge Ann Arbor, MI 48105
DESK: (734) 995-1597
CELL: (734) 846-3970
FAX: (734) 995-3456
EMAIL: sam.koch@tema.toyota.com
BBS: TTC-USA à Powertrain&Chassis à Eng Design – Powertrain à EDP CAE & Research

Mark Chappell-Lakin
413 Mark Hannah Pl.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

I love being involved with CrossFit TreeTown and walk/run to the facility 2-3 days a week!

Sincerely,

Mark Chappell-Lakin, DC

Gay MacGregor <gaymacgregor@gmail.com> Jan 14 (6 days ago)

Hi Max,

I can't believe that someone is complaining about Crossfit TreeTown being in the neighborhood. I think its a great improvement over having a vacant warehouse on the site. Not only have you improved the property but it has a parking lot and if people are not parking illegally then I don't know where this neighbor gets standing to complain. . And certainly your clientele is not loud or disruptive. I can sometimes walk when I am not coming from work as I live on Huron and Ashley. Please feel free to use my name as a supporter.

Hi Max,

Count me in for whatever support I can provide (tell them I'll commit to riding my bike or running over when the weather gets a little better.

Dave Lowenschuss
dlowenschuss@gmail.com
2020 Shadford Road
Ann Arbor, Mi 48104

To whom it may concern,

I am thrilled at CrossFit TreeTown's presence in my town, and the value that it provides to residents. I have lived on the west side of Ann Arbor for 3 years and would have liked membership in a gym, however the only options were on the other side of town or out of town. I think the establishment provides the community with great value. In warmer months I have walked to the location, and plan to do so again next summer.

Thank you,

Richard D. Walker IV
916 Patricia Ave
Ann Arbor MI 48103

Jessie Hieber
200 Kenwood
48103
I am a short bike ride from the building!

Patrick Ogdin
220 Barton North Dr.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Maureen (Molly) Welch
3035 Belvidere St.
Ann Arbor MI 48108

Hi Max—

I live on the West side of Ann Arbor, but my office is at 912 N. Main street near the corner of Depot/Main. I've been working in this same building since August 2012, and have been parking (along with several of my coworkers) on Wildt Street the entire time, so I've been able to see the changes in traffic patterns in the neighborhood beginning at around 7:15 am, during the middle of the day, and at 5:00pm when I leave work. I first noticed a few more cars were parking on the street when the new duplex on the corner of Wildt and Summit was completed and both units were sold (which was late Fall 2014). I also noticed a significant change in traffic patterns during the construction on Huron this past summer/fall. It affected Dexter Rd as well, and anyone trying to reach the Maple/Miller side of town had to find a way around it. The best way to avoid the backups on Huron/Dexter was to turn off Main and go up Summit to Wildt, then cutting down Wildt/Sunset to Newport and back to Miller. That change would have been noticeable to people living on Wildt, but is not related to the addition of Treetown in the neighborhood. I would expect the same type of traffic patterns occurring with the continued Huron construction again this year.

Since Treetown moved to the Wildt location, I haven't noticed a change in the availability of parking on that street at all other than a few more cars in the actual Treetown parking lot.

Our company has several staff members who have joined Treetown due to the convenience factor, which has brought both an added benefit to our organization from a health perspective and has helped with the revitalization of the North Main area—a selling point to new hires.

I'm sorry to hear this is happening. I hope you can get things worked out. Let me know how else I can assist.

Thanks!

KRISTEN MCMURPHY
ACCOUNT MANAGER
SECURITY OFFICER
C: 734.277.1967
E: KMCMURPHY@AMPLIFINITY.COM
T: @KRISTENMCMURPHY

Emily Joy Cedar
1803 Arborview Blvd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

I bike to TreeTown occasionally.

My name is Reina Telin and I am a member of Crossfit Treetown. I have been a Manager at Zingerman's Deli for 15 years and love having a locally owned, community minded business in the neighborhood. I like that it is such a short walk from work. When I do drive to Crossfit Treetown, I take Main St to Summit and park in the parking lot or the 4 hr street parking directly across from the business. On the way out I take the same route back to Main St so I can get on the highway to my home in Ypsilanti. I believe this business is a very positive addition to the community.

Reina Telin
281 S Wallace Blvd
Ypsilanti MI 48197

Hi Max,

I am more than happy to lend my support. I live in the neighborhood and think TreeTown is a great asset to the neighborhood! I walk and/or ride the bus every single time. Let me know if you need anything else!

Emily Renda
1024 Fountain St. #2
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Name: Joel Van Haaften
Address (home): 1101 Bicentennial Pkwy, Ann Arbor, 48108
Address (work): 912 N. Main St., Suite 100, Ann Arbor, 48104

I work just a few blocks from Crossfit TreeTown. TreeTown's location was the primary reason that I joined, since it was so close to work. TreeTown makes a huge impact on the health, well being, and quality of life of its members and community. It is exactly the type of small business that makes Ann Arbor such a wonderful city to call home.

It is patently unreasonable for someone who purchases a condo next to a commercially zoned building to expect to limit the commercial use of that building, providing that the building's use is consistent with its zoning.

I would be happy to proactively contact a city representative on behalf of TreeTown if that would be helpful. Just let me know who I should write to.

First off, I LOVE Crossfit Treetown. I've lived in the North side of Ann Arbor for almost two years now. When your gym opened up last summer I was ecstatic to find a Crossfit gym within walking distance from my house. My walk takes approximately ten minutes, which is very convenient. I can honestly say I would not be exercising regularly right now if not for Crossfit Treetown.

Crossfit Treetown provides convenient access to the many benefits of exercise which, for a student like me with an unconventional schedule, I am very thankful for. To be exposed to such a fun and hard-working group of supportive athletes on the North side of Ann Arbor has been an unexpected cherry-on-top to an already great exercise experience. I've learned that Crossfit Treetown is not only building healthy athletes; they are building a healthy community as well.

Thanks for a great WOD today, Max.

See you soon,

Scott Mortensen
524 N. Division St. Apt. #2
Ann Arbor, MI, 48104

Hello TreeTown, I hope that any challenges or issues that TreeTown neighbors have can be resolved. Im sure it is a bit of a contrast having a different level of activity in the building. While this is a result of existing zoning and a good economy, I understand that issues may arise. Bringing my son to TreeTown is a wonderful activity for him and also allows me to do shopping in Kerrytown and the main street during his one hour session. I would be happy to discuss changing my driving habits, parking habits and route choices to help alleviate any concerns from neighbors. As a planner who studies active living, I see great value having TreeTown in a walkable neighborhood and downtown. I also see dialogue and discussion as the key to compatible neighbors in a mixed use area.

I support TreeTown!!

Morgan Bolen
823 Sylvan Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

I am writing to express my support for Crossfit Treetown. This community of like-minded, caring, fit, and considerate individuals has literally changed my life. The group of people that have found Crossfit Treetown are a positive force in the Ann Arbor area. We are a group of people who get together to inspire each other, to motivate each other, to find our "personal bests" and to keep energizing for positive change - both in physical and mental elements. We have many local members, who take the opportunity to have a local gym to walk to their workouts each day. We also have had a few chances to walk from the gym into town to grab a coffee or a snack at Zingerman's or other area establishments. The membership community and other friends and family are respectful of each other and I am proud to be a member of this gym. We have grown quickly, but there is still a very personal level and care from the trainers.

Crossfit Treetown promotes a positive environment, a healthy alternative, and a way to change your lifestyle for the better.

Karyn Kummer
Hamburg Township
Crossfit Treetown Member since April 2014

Hi Max,
Here is my info:
Anita Zampardo
1612 Hillridge Blvd.

I can definitely walk down to the gym.
Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Jeff Breitner
8732 Sumpter
Maybee, MI 49159

Suzanne Cabana
8764 Dexter Gables Lane
Dexter, MI 48130

Jason Balcom
7273 York st
Dexter, MI 48130

In August 2014 my daughter Kamille started training at crossfit treetown. What I saw going on there with her class as well as in other classes was so inspirational that I joined treetown myself. The individuals who own, coach, and train at treetown are exceptional people. Since training there I have experienced overwhelming positivity and support. I would consider it a great asset to have a place such as treetown in my neighborhood, as I would probably be there twice as much as I already am. If you live close by it would be a travesty not to meet the great people who train and work there.

Treetown has also taken an unattractive warehouse and transformed it into a viable, people oriented hub of energy and positivity, A place where amazing transformations are taking place.

Jason Balcom

Max,
Here is my name and address info. I walk everyday to the gym, absolutely benefits the surrounding neighborhood.
Ross DiJulio
509 N Main St. Ann Arbor Apt #2, Ann Arbor, MI, 48104

My name is justin francis and I live at 5817 Hellner rd in Ann Arbor. I am in support of the tree town gym as it is bring the health and wellness to an area with little "health" benefits around. I am glad the gym is much closer to me and is large enough to house the many people that want to make a change in their lifestyle. I would be so happy to have a gym that cares about the community as much as tree town in my neighborhood.

Thanks
Justin francis

To whom it may concern:

My name is Tracy Collin and I am an active member at Crossfit Tree Town. I do not live in the neighborhood where the gym is located. In fact, I drive all the way from Brighton (approximately 25 minutes) to attend the excellent classes at this gym. Being involved at Crossfit Tree Town has opened my eyes to what Ann Arbor has to offer and my whole family finds ourselves spending more time and money in the city as a result of finding this gym. Despite the fact that there are several Crossfit gyms much closer to me, I choose to come to Ann Arbor because of the positive and healthy environment that Max Finkbeiner creates within his facility. I believe his presence in the neighborhood will prove to be a great asset as more people discover how they can participate in the Tree Town community.

Sincerely,
Tracy Collin
6124 Kingsley Ct
Brighton, MI 48116

Hey Max,

Add my name to the petition. Vik Jayadeva (1203 Broadway Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48105) and I am able to jog to the gym.

I typically ride my bike.

Jeffrey Sanchez-Burks

I 100% support you. I walk to TreeTown from work. It is super convenient for me and several co-workers.
Susie Paisley

I can walk to Crossfit Treetown. My condo address is 527 Longshore Dr. Apt A, Ann arbor
Mi. Having Crossfit so close cuts down on emissions by letting my drive less.

Jacob

Hi Max,

I hate to hear about the complaint. Becoming part of the Crossfit Treetown community has been the best thing I've done since I moved here. I live just up the hill and I love being able to walk to classes. I'm from Alabama, so I don't have much experience driving in the snow. It was really important for me to find a gym that was in walking distance so that I could continue training during the winter. I was so excited to find out about your box, and the location has been perfect for me! I hope whoever made the complaint is able to understand how much this community means to all of us...both from a fitness perspective and a social one. What you have is so much more than a gym, and I know many people who have been positively impacted because of it.

Thanks for all you do!
Amelia

245 Brookridge Ct. Apt 2
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Max,. my opinion is that you bring amazing value to me and the neighborhood. We do not have any option that offers the kind of workout/health exercises you do no were close to our neighborhood> since I started this work out my health has improved, my lower back pain has reduced and it became necessary fir the quality of live I want to have. I'm supporting you all the way, just let us know how we can help you.

My address is 402 Hiscock Street. If you can share who is the neighbor that is complaining to know if someone we know and might be able to help convince about the great benefits your services brings to our community.

I wish you all a prosperous 2015. I will see you on middle February when I get back from Brazil. Take care and best of luck.

Andrea

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Isaac Howell, and I am an Ann Arbor resident, graduate student at the universtiy, and patron of CrossFit TreeTown. My address is 223 Sunset Rd, which is only 1 block from the establishment. I am writing in support of having TreeTown in our neighborhood, as it has greatly improved the quality my lifestyle, as well as the other members. I am currently a prospect for the U.S. Rowing National Team, and previously it was a challenge to keep up with my training, fitness, and work during the winter months. Now with having access to TreeTown, I am receiving excellent athletic training and have had a noticeable improvement in my overall health and fitness, without sacrificing time towards my degree. I strongly believe that this business is beneficial to the Waterhill community, and I am looking forward to being a long-term member here. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Isaac Howell

223 Sunset Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
(562) 472-8702

Hi Max,

Happy to help. As you know, TreeTown's location is critical for me. I don't have time in the mornings or evenings to work out regularly, and the fact that TreeTown is within a 5 min jog from my office enables me to work out (over my lunch hour). I couldn't do it if you weren't located where you are.

As you know, I rarely drive to the gym. Instead, I run over from my office in Kerrytown.

Thanks, and long live TreeTown!!

Ryan (address below)

Ryan Waddington, Partner
Huron River Ventures
303 Detroit Street, Suite 100
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
ryan@huronrivervc.com
646-483-0809 (cell)

Hi Max,

Sorry to hear about the complaints. Crossfit Treetown has been an amazing experience and I've met a lot of great people in the community. It has also been a great release of stress from law school!

Philip Castagnozzi Bush
University of Michigan Law School
J.D. Candidate, May 2017

1614 Ferndale Place, Apt 1
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for Crossfit Treetown's new location on Wildt St. I have been a member of Crossfit Treetown for approximately 8 months. Last winter I started working for Amplifinity, a technology startup located at 912 N. Main Street, right around the corner from Crossfit Treetown.

There are so many great businesses in Ann Arbor that are located among terrific residential areas on the edges of downtown Ann Arbor. From the world famous Zingerman's Deli, to smaller local gems like Knight's Market and Washtenaw Dairy (to name just a few) - these community-based businesses contribute immeasurably to the quality of life that Ann Arbor offers.

Crossfit Treetown is a unique, locally owned business that makes a major impact on the health, well being, and quality of life for me and its other members, many of whom live and work in the surrounding neighborhood. This is exactly the type of small business that makes Ann Arbor such a wonderful place to live and work, so I urge you to continue to support Crossfit Treetown and other great small businesses like it in our community.

Sincerely,
Joel Van Haaften
734-276-0806
jvanhaaf@gmail.com

Hello Max,

Kevin Sly made us aware of the friction with the neighbor at your Crossfit location. I've attached a letter in support of your business. As an architect who is familiar with the zoning ordinance, I feel like I need to speak up when someone is harassing a business that is operating within their zoning rights. As a Water Hill resident, we've noticed you in the neighborhood and think this is a very appropriate use of that building, which we've always admired for its industrial windows and small size.

Kevin and Ali are great clients of ours, so we also wanted to voice our support since they've made us aware of this problem.

Best wishes –
Sincerely,

Theresa Angelini, AIA, NCARB
Partner, Angelini & Associates Architects
113 East Ann Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734-998-0735 ph
734-998-0319 fax

Hi Max,

I wanted to give you some feedback regarding Tree Town Crossfit .

The gym is a great venue and very accessible to us west side folks and to the rowers who our Winter training there. It is within a half mile of our boathouse which makes it accessible membership of our community rowing club. Last year about 40 or so rowers would drive cross town to another gym that was near State Street to participate in winter training. 40 plus cars going cross town, think about all the environmental impact of that alone. Your Gym is very nice and the neighborhood is close enough for many of us to start riding our bikes to when the weather warms up.

It enhances my quality of life, having a great locally owned community business near by. The building is a perfect fit for the use and is well kept up . I believe the neighbors are fortunate to have a business owner who is caring and conscientious take over the building and make it a healthy and viable business. It makes a solid contribution to the health of the North Main corridor economy, which benefits the city as a whole. Thanks for providing this to our Ann Arbor community!

Robin Schultz-Purves, MSW, Community Education Coordinator, Ann Arbor Public Schools
(o) (734) 994-2300 x 53208
robinsp@umich.edu

I am new to Treetown Crossfit but it is not by accident that I came across it and have decided to continue training there. I have lived on the Westside of Ann Arbor for nearly my whole life. I trained in ballet in the very building Treetown is bringing back to life as a gym; a perfect fit for the building.

I frequently walk to both Kerrytown and the river via the Water Hill neighborhood right past Treetown and sometimes a street over past the tow yard, or the industrial center, and the metalworkers and the gym, or the car charging station even. We frequent Knights Market and Big City Bakery. It is one of the charms of the neighborhood- the blend the mix that all work together.

My son attends Ann Arbor Open at Mack. We all work together to make the neighborhood nice and safe and fun and diverse. It matters. Having a business like Treetown adds to this.

I fully intend on training at Treetown through the warmer months and look forward to having it in a location where I can choose to walk or run or bike to get there. Or to be able to jump the neighborhood and drive 4 minutes. It's all about location and this one could not be better. They are welcome neighbors.

Katherine Caines
136 North Seventh Street
Ann Arbor, Mich 48103

Max- I'm writing this letter to lend my support to Treetown. I am not a resident of Ann Arbor but I am moving my business here. I am working with SPARK to complete that transaction today. One of the considerations for making this decision is the fantastic community you've built at Treetown and I want to be close.

I find it very very hard to believe that your gym would decrease the value of surrounding properties. It's a fact that gym's are a sought after feature in a neighborhood. Aside from the fact that I rarely see more than 10 people at the gym at any one time, why would a neighbor be OK with a Towing company or manufacturer and not a gym? I just don't get it.

Whomever might see this email should know that our gym is made up of an incredible mix of Ann Arbor people: students, attorney's, venture capitalists, educators, doctors and at least 5 of us who have businesses in Ann Arbor. The people who come to Treetown are some of the best I know and I would be happy to have any or all of them as neighbors.

Max- you have my complete and total support. Let me know what you need and I'll be there for you.

Bob Chunn, CEO & Founder of ContentOro 734.658.5299

To Whom it may concern;

My name is Reid McCarthy, I am located at 100 Huronview Blvd., Ann Arbor, 48103. I am at Crossfit Treetown several days each week. I think it is a vital business for the north side of town. While there are at least half a dozen Crossfit gyms on South State, Carpenter (the south and east part of town), there is nothing for those of us on the northside. I often walk or bike to Treetown from my office off North Main. I believe any complaints you may have received regarding the noise or traffic are over-stated, as I was familiar with that street and building before Treetown moved in and the cars parked along the road are no more than were there before the move. If you have any questions, please contact me at 734.945.9693.

Reid McCarthy
Ann Arbor

Anna McIntire
8399 Huron River Drive
Dexter, MI 48130

City of Ann Arbor

CrossFit Treetown makes a difference in not only it's members lives each and every day but also the Community of Ann Arbor as a whole. Contributing to multiple charity projects throughout the year as well as local food banks they truly do strive to make a positive impact. One would think with an image of a vibrant city that's focused on not only conservation of its earthly riches but also its communities health would note how vital this business is to that landscape. It's the singularly largest gathering of genuine, motivated and forward thinking individuals all collectively working towards betterment of self and their community I've ever experienced in any Ann Arbor small business. What Max Finkbeiner and his amazing staff of coaches have built here and what it means to us, the students, is immeasurable.

Our move to the Wildt street has afforded us opportunities beyond expectation, we absolutely love our new space and our new neighborhood. May I highlight that the winter months on the narrower Ann Arbor streets are not comfortable on space in any capacity in any neighborhood outfitted with mainly street parking. There are several of us that would be willing to park in a less congested area of designation and walk to the gym to alleviate some of the issues.

Respectfully,
Anna McIntire

Hello Max,

It is unfortunate to hear about the trouble you are having with your neighbor. I find it difficult to imagine that the gym could be anything but beneficial to the neighborhood. Here's my story:

I flew to Ann Arbor for the first time in June, Jonathan and I were looking for places to rent, just west of main but close to the medical school, and we came across TreeTown. It was immediately obvious how welcoming the environment was. I had never done crossfit in the past, but all stereotypes of hyper-aggressive competition were completely thrown out the window by the culture TreeTown, and its members, have fostered.

When I came back to Ann Arbor in July, I signed up. TreeTown is on my way to school and I have ridden my bike nearly three times a week, in mornings, to work out before class. The convenience and the structure of crossfit have contributed to a level of personal fitness that I have not achieved at any other point in my life. As a medical school student, Treetown has provided an invaluable source of stress release and a way to keep motivated about my health before marching off to the hospital for 12-14 hours of study and practice. As a citizen of Ann Arbor (both Jonathan and I have changed our residency status), I have been amazed by the sense of community TreeTown has created. I don't belong to a church, I don't work in town, and I barely leave the medical school, but my sense of attachment to Ann Arbor has been, in large part, created by the members who trade stories about children or work or events in town. Increasingly, these members live within blocks of the gym and without it, would miss out on these opportunities for exchange, support, and friendship.

Crossfit is not a gym. Instead of people putting on headphones and hitting the treadmills, we're actually talking to each other and encouraging each other. It really is an admirable fitness community and it was for this reason that I joined. In addition, TreeTown has given to local shelters through food and blanket donations. Had it been in any other location (the other crossfit gyms are south of the 94), I would have missed out on this opportunity to be a part of Ann Arbor while I attend medical school here.

I believe we are respectful of the neighbors: shutting our doors quietly, parking legally, and keeping the music down. If the concern is traffic, I have heard remarks from grateful neighbors saying that we actually slow it down for the better. The 90° transition from Sunset to Wildt is often taken by cars at far excess the speed limit. It dangerous corner and people should be aware that pedestrians are present.

Jonathan and I currently live about a mile and half away, but we hope to be closer. We are currently looking for apartments in the neighborhood and would love to be within walking distance. In the meantime, I'll continue riding my bike, continue respecting the neighbors, and continue taking of advantage of TreeTown's ability to blend health with a sense of Ann Arbor community.

Thank you for your time,
Jeremy and Jonathan

Jeremy Balch
MD Candidate | Class of 2018
University of Michigan Medical School

If I lived close enough to walk I absolutely would. I don't know how anyone could claim that we are a detriment. TreeTown is impacting so many lives in such a positive way that I'm sure overwhelmingly overrides the few cars that are occasionally parked along the street (if that is what I'm assuming the issue is here). There are cars parked along all streets in Ann Arbor so I'm not sure where this comes as a surprise or shock. The fact that street parking is sometimes necessary shows how many people have fallen in love with TreeTown. My address is

11426 Lancelot Ln
Pinckney, MI 48169

From what I've observed we are never disrespectful and try to park as far over as possible but right now it's a little more difficult due to the snow.

I hope this issue is resolved and we can find peace with our neighbors because I think the new location is a great place for us to be. If the neighbors would just come see what we are doing, I'm sure they'd fall in love as well and no longer have complaints :)

Hope this helps

Taylor

In response to complaints about the traffic going in and out of Treetown I just want to say that the people complaining really need to go down to the facility and meet the owner Max and his trainers. They run a very friendly environment that's open and very welcoming to the public to join and be a part of what feels like a team and family environment rather than just a normal gym that takes your money and let's you go on your way. Max and his staff also are very supportive to their members in making sure the workouts are done correctly and are always available when needed. They also encourage members to give back to the community by doing canned food drives and other charitable things as well.

The children's cross fit program Treetown runs is very educational for kids in teaching them about physical fitness and teamwork as well.

I have been in and out of different gyms for over 25 years and and Treetown is by far and away the most friendly and supportive gym I've ever been apart of. In my very supported opinion Treetown is a big bonus to the north/west side of Ann Arbor for what it brings to the area and community. Other businesses around Ann Arbor could definitely learn a few things from the environment that Treetown maintains.

Matt & Heather Leszczynski
