## Ann Arbor City Council Regular Session: February 2, 2015 Email Redactions List Pursuant to Council Resolution R-09-386

	А	В	С	D	E	F	G
		Received					
1	<u>Sent Time</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>T0</u>	From	<u>CC</u>	Redactions	Reason for Redaction
			Craig Hupy, Molly				
2	7:00 PM		Robinson	Graydon Krapohl	Jack Eaton	Email, address, phone number	Privacy
3	7:02 PM		Graydon Krapohl	Alan Goldsmith		Email address	Privacy
4	7:02 PM		Gmail	Sumi Kailasapathy		Email, address, phone number	Privacy
5	7:04 PM		All City Council	Sabra Briere		Email, address, phone number	Privacy
6	7:07 PM		Christopher Taylor	Andy Blyler		Address	Privacy
7	7:12 PM		Sabra Briere, Steve Powers	Jacqueline Beaudry	All City Council	Email	Privacy
8	7:13 PM		Sabra Briere	Steve Powers			
9	7:14 PM		Jack Eaton	Jenkins Naela	Christopher Taylor	Email	Privacy
10	7:23 PM		Sabra Briere	Blake Braxton		Phone number	Privacy
11	7:37 PM		Christopher Taylor	Sarah Clark		Email, Address	Privacy
			Mike Anglin, Chuck				
12	7:38 PM		Warpehoski	Sarah Clark		Email, Address	Privacy
			Christopher Taylor,				
13	7:49 PM		Barbara Wetula	Barbara Wetula		Email	Privacy
14	7:57 PM		Sumi Kailasapathy	Gmail		Email, address, phone number	Privacy
			Christopher Taylor, Sabra				
			Briere, Sumi Kailasapathy,				
			Jane Lumm, Kirk Westphal,				
			Stephen Kunselman, Julie				
			Grand, Jack Eaton,				
			Graydon Krapohl, Mike				
15	8:04 PM		Anglin, Chuck Warpehoski	Esther		Email	Privacy

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Krapohl, Graydon Monday, February 02, 2015 7:00 PM Hupy, Craig; Robinson, Molly Eaton, Jack Fwd: Amesbury Drive Snow Plowing Issues

Mr. Hupy and Ms. Robinson,

Please see the concern from Mr. Goldsmith below. If you could please look into the issue I would appreciate it.

Regards,

Graydon Krapohl Ward 4 Council Member

Emails received and sent to me as a Council Member regarding City matters are generally subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alan Goldsmith Date: February 2, 2015 at 6:15:57 PM EST To: "JEaton@a2gov.org" <JEaton@a2gov.org>, "GKrapohl@a2gov.org" <GKrapohl@a2gov.org> Subject: Amesbury Drive Snow Plowing Issues Reply-To: Alan Goldsmith

The purpose of this email is to have you look into the issue of our street, Amesbury Drive, and why is hasn't been plowed at of 6:00 pm this evening. It's a short street, one block with two houses, located between the cross streets of Churchill and Delaware. Both of those streets have been cleared and plowed several times but Amesbury was once again left off the list receiving attention.

This happened with the last snowstorm when other streets in the subdivision were plowed and Amesbury was missed. The failure to plow the last time resulted in the street being a sheet of ice and I had to report it to the City as a safety hazard (the street is on the school bus route) through the online 'fix it' reporting process, when the City finally came out and applied sand.

This level of City service in simply not acceptable and if you could look into why it continues to happen and let me know what can be done to fix the continued omission, it would be appreciated.

Thank you.

Alan Goldsmith

# Ann Arbor

From: Sent: To: Subject: Alan Goldsmith Monday, February 02, 2015 7:02 PM Krapohl, Graydon Re: Amesbury Drive Snow Plowing Issues

Thank you sir. I appreciate your fast response.

Alan Goldsmith

From: "Krapohl, Graydon" <<u>GKrapohl@a2gov.org</u>> To: Alan Goldsmith Sent: Monday, February 2, 2015 6:58 PM Subject: Re: Amesbury Drive Snow Plowing Issues

Mr. Goldsmith,

Thank you for letting me know. I will see what I can find out.

Graydon Krapohl Ward 4 Council Member

Emails received and sent to me as a Council Member regarding City matters are generally subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 2, 2015, at 6:16 PM, Alan Goldsmith

wrote:

The purpose of this email is to have you look into the issue of our street, Amesbury Drive, and why is hasn't been plowed at of 6:00 pm this evening. It's a short street, one block with two houses, located between the cross streets of Churchill and Delaware. Both of those streets have been cleared and plowed several times but Amesbury was once again left off the list receiving attention.

This happened with the last snowstorm when other streets in the subdivision were plowed and Amesbury was missed. The failure to plow the last time resulted in the street being a sheet of ice and I had to report it to the City as a safety hazard (the street is on the school bus route) through the online 'fix it' reporting process, when the City finally came out and applied sand.

This level of City service in simply not acceptable and if you could look into why it continues to happen and let me know what can be done to fix the continued omission, it would be appreciated.

Thank you.

# Alan Goldsmith



From:Kailasapathy, SumiSent:Monday, February 02, 2015 7:02 PMTo:GmailSubject:RE: Northside Ave plowing

I just got plowed out as well.

I am sorry for the delay but I am told our resources have been stretched.

Sumi

-----Original Message-----From: Gmail Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 11:17 AM To: Kailasapathy, Sumi Subject: Northside Ave plowing

Hi Sumi, are you aware of when our street will get plowed? We're stuck!!! Thanks!

Marc Bleckman

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: Briere, Sabra Monday, February 02, 2015 7:04 PM \*City Council Members (All) Fwd: Environmental commission BobNeedhamResume.doc; ATT00001.htm

(sorry. Used the wrong email to send.)

Sabra Briere First Ward City Council Ann Arbor 734-995-3518 734-277-6578 (cell)

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sabra Briere Date: February 2, 2015 at 6:49:09 PM EST To: Jacqueline Beaudry <<u>JBeaudry@a2gov.org</u>>, Steve Powers <<u>SPowers@a2gov.org</u>> Cc: \*City Council Members <<u>CityCouncilMembersAll@a2gov.org</u>> Subject: Fwd: Environmental commission

Dear colleagues,

Attached is the resume of Bob Needham. I'll be nominating him to serve on the Environmental Commission tonight. Formal resolution and confirming vote in two weeks.

Jackie, could you please add this to the Council Comments section? Sorry to be so late with this. My error - completely.

Sabra

Sabra Briere First Ward City Council Ann Arbor 734-995-3518 734-277-6578 (cell)

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bob Needham Date: February 2, 2015 at 5:33:21 PM EST To: Sabra Briere <<u>sabra.briere@gmail.com</u>> Subject: Re: Environmental commission

Sabra,

Sure, it's attached here.

Thanks Bob

On Mon, Feb 2, 2015 at 5:06 PM, Sabra Briere Dear Bob,

Do you have a copy of your current resume? I want to share it with Council members.

(Sadly, tonight would be good ...)

Sabra Briere First Ward City Council Ann Arbor 734-995-3518 734-277-6578 (cell)

Sent from my iPad

On Jan 18, 2015, at 9:25 AM, Bob Needham wrote:

Sabra,

Yes indeed! That's great news. Thank you very much.

Best wishes

Bob

On Jan 17, 2015, at 7:39 PM, Sabra Briere wrote:

Dear Bob,

I wanted to let you know that I will be putting your name forward at the first meeting in February, and the Council will decide whether to approve at the second meeting in February. Is that still OK?

Sabra Briere <u>734-995-3518</u> (h) <u>734-277-6578</u> (c)

*Emails received and sent to me as a Councilmember regarding Ann Arbor City matters are generally subject to*  wrote:

*disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.* 

#### Twitter @BobNeedham

### EXPERIENCE

Editorial Content Manager, Ross School of Business, University of Michigan (2013-present)

- Coordinate, help write, edit, and oversee production of Ross alumni magazine.
- Write copy for various print and online outlets including website text, blog posts, brochures, etc.
- Edit and proofread copy written by colleagues.

Managing Producer / Entertainment Content Director, AnnArbor.com (2009-2013)

- Directed arts/entertainment coverage of news website and twice-weekly newspaper.
- Wrote articles and briefs for publication online.
- Helped run website news operations: acting as editor on duty, moderating comments.
- Oversaw creation and implementation of online events calendar.

#### Opinion Editor, The Ann Arbor News (2008-2009)

- Wrote most of the newspaper's staff editorials.
- Solicited, coordinated and edited reader submissions (essays and letters).

Entertainment Editor, The Ann Arbor News (2001-2008)

- Oversaw local arts coverage, including broadsheet sections and weekly tabloid.
- Managed three staffers and six free-lancers, including planning, assigning, editing.
- Helped introduce online entertainment presence, including blog and calendar.
- Wrote columns, reviews and news stories.

Assistant Metro Editor, The Ann Arbor News (2000-2001)

- Supervised six reporters; developed and edited stories, including Census coverage.
- Helped run metro desk; planned coverage, acted as editor on duty.
- Expanded coverage of outer-region areas, including a dedicated page.

Copy Editor, The Ann Arbor News (1996-2000)

- Designed pages; helped convert to Quark XPress-based layout system.
- Edited stories, wrote headlines, proofread finished pages.

Copy Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Livonia (1994-1996)

- Designed pages, edited stories, wrote headlines, proofread finished pages.
- Organized, wrote and produced special section on the Rouge River.

Editor, The Northville Record, Northville (1990-1994)

- Oversaw staff and operations of award-winning community newspaper.
- Wrote editorials, columns, and other copy as needed.
- Designed pages, proofread pages, and coordinated page production.

**Reporter**, The Northville Record, Northville (1987-1990)

• Wrote news stories, features, and projects for local weekly newspaper.

#### EDUCATION

B.A., English, Alma College, 1986

• Graduated cum laude, with departmental honors in English.

INTERESTS

Music, movies, theater; hiking, biking, kayaking; gardening; Ann Arbor history/civic life.

From: Sent: To: Subject: Andy Blyler [andy@blyler.cc] Monday, February 02, 2015 7:07 PM Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) Snow Removal near YMCA

Mayor Taylor,

We have a lot of traffic on West Washington Street (between Third St and Seventh St). I understand that priority is given to main routes and trash routes, but would it be possible to get a truck to plow this area? There have been a lot of people getting stuck in the untreated street.

Thanks, Andy Blyler



Andy Blyler @ablyler · 2h @a2gov it looks like West Washington St between Third St and Seventh St hasn't been touched yet, any ETA?



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@ablyler if your trash route was today or tomorrow, soon. Otherwise you will have to be patient.

6:28 PM - 2 Feb 2015

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Reply to @A2GOV

23



Andy Blyler @ablyler · 24m @A2GOV no worries, just curious. so priority is being give to trash routes and main streets?



**City of Ann Arbor** @A2GOV · 7m @ablyler that is our normal procedure.

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From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Beaudry, Jacqueline Monday, February 02, 2015 7:12 PM Sabra Briere; Powers, Steve \*City Council Members (All); Postema, Stephen RE: Environmental commission

The packet and web have been updated with Mr. Needham's resume.

#### Jacqueline Beaudry, City Clerk

Ann Arbor City Clerk's Office | Guy C. Larcom City Hall |301 E. Huron, 2nd Floor · Ann Arbor · MI · 48104 734.794.6140 (O) · 734.994.8296 (F) | jbeaudry@a2gov.org | www.a2gov.org

Think Green! Please don't print this e-mail unless absolutely necessary.

From: Sabra Briere Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 6:49 PM To: Beaudry, Jacqueline; Powers, Steve Cc: \*City Council Members (All) Subject: Fwd: Environmental commission

Dear colleagues,

Attached is the resume of Bob Needham. I'll be nominating him to serve on the Environmental Commission tonight. Formal resolution and confirming vote in two weeks.

Jackie, could you please add this to the Council Comments section? Sorry to be so late with this. My error - completely.

Sabra

Sabra Briere First Ward City Council Ann Arbor 734-995-3518 734-277-6578 (cell)

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

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Sabra,

Sure, it's attached here.

Thanks Bob On Mon, Feb 2, 2015 at 5:06 PM, Sabra Briere Dear Bob,

wrote:

Do you have a copy of your current resume? I want to share it with Council members.

(Sadly, tonight would be good . . . )

Sabra Briere First Ward City Council Ann Arbor 734-995-3518 734-277-6578 (cell)

Sent from my iPad

On Jan 18, 2015, at 9:25 AM, Bob Needham

Sabra,

Yes indeed! That's great news. Thank you very much.

Best wishes

Bob

On Jan 17, 2015, at 7:39 PM, Sabra Briere

wrote:

wrote:

Dear Bob,

I wanted to let you know that I will be putting your name forward at the first meeting in February, and the Council will decide whether to approve at the second meeting in February. Is that still OK?

Sabra Briere <u>734-995-3518</u> (h) 734-277-6578 (c)

*Emails received and sent to me as a Councilmember regarding Ann Arbor City matters are generally subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.* 

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: Powers, Steve Monday, February 02, 2015 7:13 PM Briere, Sabra FW: Winter Maintenance Report Memo from City Administrator - Winter 14-15 Operations 12-4-14.pdf

#### As you requested.

From: Higgins, Sara
Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2014 12:50 PM
To: \*City Council Members (All)
Cc: Seto, John; Hupy, Craig; Wondrash, Lisa; Powers, Steve
Subject: Winter Maintenance Report

Mayor and Council:

On behalf of Steve Powers, attached is a Winter Maintenance Report.

Thank you,

Sara Higgins Assistant to City Administrator City of Ann Arbor City Administrator's Office Phone: (734) 794-6110 Internal Number: 41102

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Naela Jenkins Monday, February 02, 2015 7:14 PM Eaton, Jack Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) City Plowing

Hi Jack,

I hope you and Bitsy are well. I am writing because of my frustration with the city's plowing policies. I recognize that this snow event was prolonged, but as I sit here writing this note, our street is yet to be plowed. There have been multiple cars stuck on the street through the day and essentially the street from our end is impassable. I was not able to go to work today because I couldn't get out and now am forced to use my vacation time to cover my absence. The lack of plowing and the time it takes for the plowing to occur have been ongoing problems for some time. Jeff works with many people from the surrounding cities who always comment they know exactly when the enter Ann Arbor because the roads are never plowed or salted. So how is it that these smaller cities with a smaller tax base are able to provide far superior public services? This is one the main reasons people cite for not looking for a home here and instead prefer to live elsewhere. I have no doubt that Ann Arbor taxes are probably some of the highest in the state, yet we can not get our street plowed once in more than 36 hours since the snow began.

I feel this is unacceptable. As a citizen I could be cited for not clearing my sidewalk in a reasonable amount of time, but the same rules do not apply to the streets. It's a huge inconvenience and in my opinion a safety issue. Could an ambulance get down our street if needed? I don't think so, and today the Perry's were stuck while trying desperately to get to a doctor's appointment. The driving conditions are unsafe and people need to be able to get out for medical care or really for any reason.

I am fortunate my employer doesn't penalize me for staying at home and I will still be paid for the day, but what of a family where they lose their pay for the day. This could be a huge impact on their financial well being.

This issue needs to be addressed at council meetings and some solutions need to be put forth to change how things are done. For example, in a big storm can contracted snow removal be brought in to assist with the plowing? I recognize everyone wants to say there is no money, but that is no longer acceptable. Also, using the garbage pick up schedule doesn't work in an event like this. Why can't some drivers be designated to touch each street on a preliminary basis and then make a second pass later. If the street had been plowed once overnight or late yesterday, I could have gotten out this morning if only 6-7 inches were on the ground. Again, I recognize the main roads are first and it costs more to make two passes, but the money needs to be found somewhere. Especially in a year when there has been a minimal need for plowing and salt. The only other time Dicken was plowed, was after I called the service line and requested it.

I know that you talked about getting back to the basics and making city services a priority, so I hope you will share the frustrations of the neighborhoods (many comments on the Nextdoor Dicken site) and myself with your fellow council members, and not only discuss these issues, but make some real changes for the future.

Thanks for taking the time to consider my concerns, Naela

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

Braxton Blake [braxton@braxtonblake.com] Monday, February 02, 2015 7:23 PM Briere, Sabra Re: Snow on street removal problem

Thanks so much. I'm happy to shovel snow, but not twice in the same day (a day without falling snow). Still, my question remains: If I meet my snow removal obligations and the city blows snow later that day, have I met my legal obligations if I do not remove street snow blown on my sidewalk by the city? I know you are not a lawyer (are you?), but is there a city policy that addresses my question? Again, thanks for your help. HI to Dave! Brad

On 2/2/2015 4:20 PM, Briere, Sabra wrote:

Dear Brad,

I've just returned from digging out my driveway curb cut. I understand your frustration.

Our snow policy regarding sidewalk snow removal contains an internal inconsistency. It requires clearing any snow that fell before 6 am by noon; it requires clearing all the snow within 24 hours of the end of the snow. Many people follow the second requirement but not the first.

The City, in turn, endeavors to clear the streets within 24 hours of the end of the snow. In doing so, they plow the snow back into our already-shoveled curb cuts.

I am aware of this, and personally hope that the Pedestrian Safety and Access Task Force will address the need to revise policy as part of their report. I've copied the City Administrator on this message. I anticipate changes to the snow clearance policy.

Sabra Briere First Ward City Council Ann Arbor 734-995-3518 734-277-6578 (cell)

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 2, 2015, at 4:05 PM, Braxton Blake < braxton@braxtonblake.com > wrote:

Dear Sabra and Sumi -

I write regarding snow removal on my street, Longshore Drive.

Today I dutifully removed the snow on my sidewalk and the driveway extension before 12 noon. $\hat{A}$  I also applied magnesium chloride to prevent icing.

Around 3 PM today, the city's snow removal truck (somewhat) cleared our street of snow. $\hat{A}$  In doing so, their truck blew a substantial amount the street snow onto

my sidewalk and driveway extension. This required me to once again spend considerable time away from my work to remove the snow. I simply cannot meet my contractual, compositional obligations if my day is interrupted with problems such as this one.

So, in an attempt to remedy this situation, I have the following questions for which I request your answers.

1) If I meet my snow removal obligations and the city blows snow later that day, have I met my legal obligations if I do not remove street snow blown on my sidewalk by the city?  $\hat{A} \hat{A}$  I could photograph my initial pre-12:00-noon clearing as confirmation, if that would help.  $\hat{A}$ 

2) If the city has not yet cleared the street snow, could residents wait to remove their sidewalk snow after the street snow removal, thereby saving resident's from removing the snow twice (assuming the second removal is legally required)? If not, why not consider that as a policy change? It is too much of a burden (especially for older people) to have to remove the snow twice.

3) The city's webpage on snow removal states "Snow or ice can't be moved onto to public street, it must be placed on the extension, lawn or other portion of the property". If we cannot place sidewalk snow on the street, why should it be acceptable for the city to blow their snow onto residents' sidewalks?

This issue has been a annoying and work-interrupting problem for us for years and I would like to find a resolution. $\hat{A}$  Interestingly, this was never a problem at our previous residence. $\hat{A}$ 

Any help you can offer will greatly appreciated. Thanks so much for serving and for your help!

Fond regards -Brad



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software. www.avast.com



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software. <u>www.avast.com</u>

From: Sent: To: Subject: Clark, Sarah [saclark@med.umich.edu] Monday, February 02, 2015 7:37 PM Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) Snow Emergencies, Please

#### Mayor Taylor,

Major snowstorm, accurately predicted by weather folk, plenty of time to notify people to get their cars off the road...and yet Ann Arbor again fails to call a snow emergency. Now (if the plows ever get around to us) we are doomed to crappy plow jobs that leave piles of snow jutting out into the street, making winter driving even more dangerous.

Normal cities call snow emergencies to make their snow removal more efficient and make post-storm driving safer for residents. You can find a big list of them on annarbor.com! In the future, let's make sure Ann Arbor is on that list.

#### Sarah Clark

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Electronic Mail is not secure, may not be read every day, and should not be used for urgent or sensitive issues

From: Sent: To: Subject: Clark, Sarah [saclark@med.umich.edu] Monday, February 02, 2015 7:38 PM Anglin, Mike; Warpehoski, Chuck snow emergencies

Ward 5 Council Members:

This was a major snowstorm, accurately predicted by weather folk, with plenty of time to notify people to get their cars off the road...and yet Ann Arbor again fails to call a snow emergency. Now (if the plows ever get around to us) we are doomed to crappy plow jobs that leave piles of snow jutting out into the street, making winter driving even more dangerous.

Normal cities call snow emergencies to make their snow removal more efficient and make post-storm driving safer for residents. You can find a big list of them on annarbor.com! In the future, let's make sure Ann Arbor is on that list.

#### Sarah Clark

#### 

Electronic Mail is not secure, may not be read every day, and should not be used for urgent or sensitive issues

From: Sent: To: Subject: Barbara Wetula Monday, February 02, 2015 7:49 PM Taylor, Christopher (Mayor); barbara wetula The way the snow was managed today

Dear Mayor Taylor,

I am writing to express my concern with the manner in which snow removal is being managed for the storm that ended this am.

Unacceptable

I have heard a variety of reasons for the current state; plowing does not start until most of the snow has dropped. lack of funding from the state, it does not need to be completed until 24 hr after the snow fall stops, the route is based on the garbage pick up schedule as well as it is what it is. My street, Felch remained covered with 14 inches of snow while Miller road has been cleared down to the black top. The contrast is stark.

Over the last 1.5 hours i have witnessed car after car become stuck in the snow that is so high the cars can not round a corner or get up felch street hill at the spring street intersection. A tow truck has been at the corner for the last hour.

I am wondering where judgment has been applied to this situation--this was not your average snow storm--14 inches is not an average storm. Yet, the response and plan developed by the city to manage this storm was the same as it is for a an average size storm. The lack of response created a very unsafe situation--- and unless someone is going to tale public servant such as nurses, fire fighters and police to work--we need to drive ourselves. Not everyone can stay home.

I suggest, the city stop blaming the state for not having adequate funding for snow removal and develop a better plan. It is up to the city to develop a budget that adequately meets the snow removal requirements for these large storms that **occur annually**. Ann Arbor government must stop acting surprised when this happens.

We need a flexible snow removal plan that is driven by judgement not only the garbage collection schedule. Miller did not have to be clear to the black top at the expense of leaving at least two neighbor hood untouched/unplowed and very unsafe. This amount of snow makes it dangerous to round corners, go up small hills and park on the street.

I was truly disappointed in the way the city managed this situation. We can do better than this.

Sincerely, Barbara . Wetula

Gmail From: Monday, February 02, 2015 7:57 PM Sent: To: Kailasapathy, Sumi Re: Northside Ave plowing Subject: I meant to write you back when they got to us late afternoon. Thanks! Sent from my iPhone > On Feb 2, 2015, at 7:01 PM, "Kailasapathy, Sumi" <<u>SKailasapathy@a2gov.org</u>> wrote: > > I just got plowed out as well. > > I am sorry for the delay but I am told our resources have been > stretched. > > Sumi > > -----Original Message-----> From: Gmail [mailto: > Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 11:17 AM > To: Kailasapathy, Sumi > Subject: Northside Ave plowing > > Hi Sumi, are you aware of when our street will get plowed? We're > stuck!!! Thanks! > > Marc Bleckman > > >

> Sent from my iPhone

From:	Esther
Sent:	Monday, February 02, 2015 8:04 PM
То:	Taylor, Christopher (Mayor); Briere, Sabra; Kailasapathy, Sumi; Lumm, Jane; Westphal, Kirk; Kunselman, Stephen; Grand, Julie; Eaton, Jack; Krapohl, Graydon; Anglin, Mike; Warpehoski, Chuck
Subject:	FW: Sample Letter to send out to Ann Arbor on Deer Killing

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

As a supporter of University of Michigan, I am appalled to find out that the Mayor and the City Council Members would allow the introduction of culling deer in your City with a population of over 117,000, due to a handful of people complaining about their gardens.

The facts speak for themselves:

1. Culling is not effective in a suburban/urban environment due to compensatory rebound effect. As the population reduces, the deer will begin reproducing twins and even triplets. It does not have an impact on the deer population, it must be implemented every single year and very expensive. In addition, once the deer are removed, others from surrounding areas will immigrate.

2. According to Washtenaw County Public Health Department, residents diagnosed with Lyme disease in Washtenaw County were likely exposed elsewhere. In 2014, Washtenaw County Public Health Department does not have a reported case of Lyme disease.

3. City parks, including City golf courses, have not had vegetation damage by deer.

4. A City should never consider killing wildlife because of garden issues. There are low cost products on the market which have been proven to be 100% effective in deterring deer from ones garden. Countless plant materials are available which deer are not attracted to. Maintaining your garden is no different than maintaining and spraying your lawn for weeds.

5. Ann Arbor does not appear to have a vehicle/deer collision problem, because the yearly average deer/vehicle accidents have been 47 in the last five years with a 1.5% average of total crashes.

6. Allowing the introduction of high powered weapons by hiring an outside service or allowing recreational hunting in a suburban/urban environment and risking the safety of the residents is unacceptable. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) allows children as young as 10 and 12 years old to pull permits and kill deer.

I urge you not to proceed with the killing plan. Residents will not tolerate any kind of senseless killing of innocent deer, especially when you have a group as Washtenaw Citizens for Ecological Balance (WCEB) misleading the public in believing that you have a deer problem. Your resolution of this issue should be fact based and unbiased, and not based on the emotions of a few residents with PREVENTABLE damage to their gardens.

Sincerely, Esther Littmann, Rose Township, Michigan

