

On Thu, Apr 12, 2012 at 12:01 PM, Jane Cooper <jwcooper2@comcast.net> wrote:
To: John Kapusky

Subject: Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, 730 Tappan Street

From: Jane Cooper, Representing Delta Delta Delta Sorority, 718 Tappan Street

As an officer of the Delta Delta Delta House Corporation Board I have represented the sorority at Zoning Board and City Planning Commission hearings last year. Because we are the sorority immediately adjacent to the Sigma Phi Epsilon property we know the presence of the fraternity next door will have a significant impact and have followed closely the progress of work being done by the fraternity.

The modification of the Special Use agreement requested by the fraternity – to increase the number of beds from 44 to 45 – is one that we support. The fraternity has reached out to us regularly throughout the process of purchase and development to see how our concerns about fencing, lighting and noise could be addressed. We have been pleased with their desire to have this be a positive relationship from the start – all of us understand that it is easier to continue a good relationship than to repair one that has started badly.

Not only is the resident manager required by the zoning code, but also this is a position that we – as a sorority with a resident house director – believe will reduce some of the potential challenges of having a house full of fraternity men next door to a house with 60+ college women. And we are acutely aware of the fraternity's need to have the full revenue from 44 beds, with a reduced rate for the resident manager as the 45th bed, to be financially viable.

For these reasons we encourage the City Planning Commission to approve this Special Exception Use request.

I can be reached at janecoop@umich.edu, [734-662-3846](tel:734-662-3846), or [734-417-8817](tel:734-417-8817) (cell) if you wish further information.