

**From:** Greenfield, Lazar [<mailto:lazarg@med.umich.edu>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 04, 2011 8:46 AM

**To:** Planning

**Cc:** Sonk, Hugh

**Subject:** Varsity building

We write to express our concern regarding the proposed "Varsity" student housing building on Huron street. In contrast to the design proposed for the Washington street entrance, the Huron street façade lacks appropriate setback, obscures adjacent historic buildings, and contains a closed garage door that will delay traffic entry from Huron street. The state has already documented the adverse effects of such delays in the face of progressively increased traffic on this major thoroughfare. The Downtown Plan also calls for more respect for the low-scale residential character of the neighborhood, respect that is absent in the size, design and scale of the of this tower. Ample evidence exists of the consequences of ugly building in the downtown area. The Planning Commission should adhere to its published standards and the recommendations of its consultants.

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