

Subject: large buildings in established residential neighborhoods

From: Cindy Pomerleau

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To: Lisa Disch <lisadisch44@gmail.com>; Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>; Harrison, Cynthia <CHarrison@a2gov.org>

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Greetings -

I live in the neighborhood just North of Kerrytown, which is currently called home by a multi-age, multi-ethnic, and socio-economically diverse population.

We are now being rezoned to a so-called "Transition" neighborhood--"transition" by definition meaning on its way from what it is to something else. Apparently that "something else" is best defined by height, presumably a proxy for density. A recent message from Ward 1 representative Lisa Disch (February 17, 2026) states: "Heights in Transition [neighborhoods] are likely to be *as low as 4 stories and probably not higher than 6 stories* [italics mine]. Representative Disch's phraseology is misleading, given that even the tallest building currently in our neighborhood is less than 4 stories high. Erecting such ungainly structures cheek by jowl with the current charming mix of single-family homes, small apartment buildings, and condominiums of 2-4 units will introduce unsightly discrepancies in scale and seriously detract from the welcoming vibes of this thriving historic neighborhood.

Our neighborhood already largely conforms to the vision statements and objectives of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. In terms of Ann Arbor's stated long-term goals, therefore, this neighborhood isn't broken yet so please don't fix it. I'm not an architect but it seems to me that targets for increased density in our neighborhood could be addressed by exploring ways to make systematic modest adjustments to our housing stock as new building sites become available rather than by jumping in and adding mini-skyscrapers to the mix.

Yours truly,
Cindy Pomerleau
N 4th Ave