

Subject:

Draft Plan concerns

From: Freda Herseth**Sent:** Monday, August 4, 2025 8:33 PM**To:** Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>**Subject:** Draft Plan concerns

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

I am deeply disturbed by, and very concerned about, the draft comprehensive land use plan you are considering. Many fellow residents of Ann Arbor have come to meetings and let you know of their concerns.

I hope you will gather and work with reliable data for housing needs for projected population increase in the coming years. As of now, I haven't found real solutions for affordable housing in the plan - to the contrary, I see luxury condos springing up and more advertised. Developers seem to be able to avoid providing affordable housing and the city does not hold their feet to the fire. Looking at developments in Ballard, Washington, where my parents were married, residents are being pushed out of their community, trees are razed, and huge buildings are right next to folks' homes. I am concerned that this kind of predatory development with fewer or weaker environmental standards will indeed happen everywhere in our town. And will parking be provided somehow? Will infrastructure costs be realistic and provided for?

At the heart of all this discussion is the fact that we, the residents, were not engaged - there was a flawed survey, and the planning process was not inclusive...our community is more divided now than I can recall in 30 years of living here. Affordable housing is given lip service - how many units have been built in the past several years? Who decides how much is enough? Those who desperately need housing or those who are comfortable in their homes?

Please help us understand why you are rushing this process to the detriment of our town.

Thank you - I realize that being on the Planning Commission is a ton of work.

Freda Herseth
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