

Subject: Save our 100+ year old neighborhoods for generations to come!

From: Eleanor Jones

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To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>

Subject: Save our 100+ year old neighborhoods for generations to come!

I am a life-long Ann Arborite and 3rd generation Burns Park resident. For the past 31 years, my husband and I have owned and cared for a 1920 home on the same street I grew up on (Olivia Avenue), just blocks from the Brooklyn home my grandparents bought in 1949, where my mother was raised.

I am strongly opposed to the following part of the proposed re-zoning of land in Ann Arbor:

"All residential lots in the city could contain **a 4-story building with unlimited units--exact height** yet to be determined--and no parking required."

This would ruin the character of our over 100-year-old neighborhood, not to mention it is RIDICULOUS to have no plans for the parking such a building will require.

I can see no legitimate reason for such extreme rezoning to allow this level of housing development. Where is the data that supports this radical zoning change? Why on earth can't such housing be built in NEW (yet to be built) housing areas?? Walkable, tree-lined, QUIET single-family areas like Burns Park, Ives Woods, etc. are the reason we choose to live here, investing significantly in buying and maintaining a 100-year old house and paying city property taxes. The character of these neighborhoods is what draws people to Ann Arbor - and keeps them here. Living in a single-family house with a yard is not a crime; it's the American dream.

While I do not object to small 2-story duplexes in styles that fit seamlessly into neighborhoods like Martin Place/Cambridge, and Lincoln, absolutely nobody wants to live next door to a looming, over-filled apartment building that shades their solar panels and gardens.

Additionally, I want to see strong protections for our publicly- and privately-owned tree canopy and green spaces, prevention of noise and light pollution, and specific plans to upgrade our aged, failing water and electrical systems. Where will all the added traffic go? Where will the additional cars be parked? What about EV charging stations? These are all important issues to address before any zoning changes are made.

I beg you to please slow down this process to allow broader public input. I strongly urge the city to take the time to do a *statistically valid* survey of residents' opinions to inform this process. The results should be shared publicly to all residents via direct means such as mailing (paper mail) as well as making the data that supports this proposed zoning publicly available.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Eleanor Jones
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