

Subject: A2PauseThePlan

From: Vince Caruso
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 4:19 PM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: A2PauseThePlan.com

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Vince Caruso Founding and Board Member Allen's Creek Watershed Group - ACWG.ORG, Founding and Board Member Coalition Action for Remediation of 1,4 Dioxane - CARD Group, former Sierra Club Huron Valley Michigan Board Member : Ann Arbor MI

Water supply, cost and water quality - this may be one of the strongest arguments in this issue of so many new CondosEverywhere in Ann Arbor.

We do **not have easy access to large amounts of fresh drinking water in this area**. Detroit water, **Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA)**, is not a viable option for several reasons, not least of which is the very poor water quality that GLWA relies on for what would have been water for Ann Arbor, Ann Arbor Township and Scio Township. The **city council roundly rejected** the **GLWA** drinking water source in 2023 after several commented to city council on this issue. **Dr. Rita Loch-Caruso** (Professor Emeritus, Toxicologist UofM, SPH and LSA, Board Member of ACWG and CARD. State of MI Health Advisor to the Health Department, and **Dan Bicknell** MPH (former EPA Superfund Manager who first found the pollution at the Gelman Site and long-time follower of Gelman Pollution) and others in ACWG commented.

City utility staff did not support the GLWA switch for Ann Arbor drinking water in reports to City Council yet **many on council including the mayor ignored the concerns**. More details on GLWA at ACWG.ORG.

Black and Veatch Consultant's 2015 Report and the **city staff recent report to not pursue**.

We have high quality drinking water from the recently upgraded Ann Arbor Water Treatment Facility for about \$100M. If we move to the GLWA, we trade local control of high quality water testing, treatment, and service for water with higher levels of chemical contaminants, greater risk for future contamination, and more unwanted chlorination.

Having **control of drinking water is a critical issue for communities**. City staff have stated that directly in recent years.

With potential well contamination of township homes from the Gelman plume in nearby townships, we **will need to supply water** to these residents. Many wells are in the single digits ppb currently with the state standard for 1,4 dioxane in drinking water is 7.2 ppb. We are finding about 40ppb in the West

Park Area in shallow ground water. Ann Arbor must supply drinking water due to federal agreements when the treatment plants were built with partial federal funding.

More wells in the townships are getting contaminated with Gelman Plume. The city may be forced to supply drinking water to these homes, which may cause a major water supply issue with many new homes being proposed.

Costs to use GLWA/Detroit water are much higher than Ann Arbor \$355 million to connect to Detroit's water system, and only \$110M to upgrade Ann Arbor water plant.

GLWA was chastised by WHO and other international bodies for cutting off water to **low income homeowners in recent years.**

Developers stated at City's Library Open House that 3 condos will **Not Pencil Out** with just 3 floors. Not a big enough money to make.

Bate and Switch may move to 6 or more floors?

Tear down vast majority great housing, to build 3Condo plan.

More carbon emissions **tearing down perfectly good buildings**, building new buildings with **more carbon emissions** (not to mention all the 20+ story Concrete Building) Climate change be damned.

Just outside Ann Arbor are lots of land for starter homes and city water very close to the city limits. We have a great bus system that could get people to downtown in 15 to 20 minutes. Is it the problem that A2 is not making a bundle on it.

Canada smoke, due to climate change, will not stop anytime soon without a great reduction in carbon emissions. Climate change is now on a rapid calamitous, straight up trajectory according to recent reports, no ignoring it now if you want a comfortable planet.

Thank you