

From: Ryan Henyard
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2023 12:13 PM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: Catherine Street Development

Greetings Planning Commissioners,

My name is Ryan Henyard, and one of my many roles in the Ann Arbor area is as a trustee with Avalon Housing. I wanted to reach out and share my support for the Catherine Street proposal developed in partnership with the AAHC. I know you are all very aware of the need for housing near jobs and transit, but it stands to repeat how this added stock to our housing ecosystem will allow the city to support more neighbors to live and work in A2. One of the reasons I am especially supportive of this project is the way that the AAHC and Avalon have worked in tandem with Black community leaders to celebrate and maintain the historical presence of Black Ann Arborites in the Kerrytown neighborhood. The collaboration with the Community Leadership Council showed a willingness to engage with those who have been displaced by the history of racism in housing here in Washtenaw.

This project is exciting for many reasons; the ability to create an all-electric building to help reach climate goals, creating more affordable housing units to meet our needs for houseless neighbors, and a place to engage with other Black community members in a space that recognizes our local history. I'm fully supportive of this effort from the city and its partners, and hoping that it can move forward smoothly. Thanks for your time, attention and consideration!

Sincerely,
Ryan Henyard

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