

Subject: Act now on zoning reform

From: Shannon Lau

Sent: Friday, January 23, 2026 5:16 PM

To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>; City Council <CityCouncil@a2gov.org>

Subject: Act now on zoning reform

Hi Ann Arbor City Council,

We need to act on Ann Arbor's housing crisis, this year.

I really wish I could live in Ann Arbor again. I wish that there are more options for me to rent in walkable, car-free conducive neighborhoods, and that my friends who want to buy homes here could afford to.

On my commute on the 4 and 5 from Pittsfield Township to Downtown, I pass by a lot of dead brownfield, empty parking lots, industrial sprawl, and unactivated lawns. I talk with others on the bus about how we often feel disconnected from community, separated by these empty spaces. When policy severs walkable density from our land use, there are real harms — physically, socially, and environmentally.

We have a lot to change, and we can start implementing those changes in 2026. Please consider the proposal for zoning reform this year and pass a resolution to hold city staff accountable. We have to fix how we build our communities before it gets worse.

Shannon Lau