

Ann Arbor Historic District Commission 301 E. Huron St. Ann Arbor, MI 48104

## Commissioners,

I am writing to express our concerns regarding the proposed Green Rental Housing Ordinance and its impact on Ann Arbor's historic districts.

The Greater Metropolitan Association of REALTORS® (GMAR) represents over 7,000 REALTORS® in Southeast Michigan. As subject matter experts with direct contact with both housing providers and community members, we understand the importance of preserving the historic charm and character that makes Ann Arbor unique. While we recognize the intent of the ordinance, its implementation will place a great burden on rental properties in historic districts, potentially damaging the features that these neighborhoods seek to preserve.

The ordinance requires compliance with energy efficiency upgrades within a short, three-year timeline. However, homes in historic districts face unique challenges in meeting these requirements. The modifications necessary to achieve compliance may conflict with preservation guidelines, and in many cases, historically appropriate materials or methods are significantly more expensive than modern alternatives. Housing providers in historic districts will be forced to balance compliance with the ordinance and maintaining the historical integrity of their properties which will change the character and cultural significance of these neighborhoods.

I urge the Historic District Commission to consider how this ordinance will affect rental housing within historic districts and advocate for policies that preserve Ann Arbor's historic charm.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your support in ensuring that historic rental properties remain both viable and accessible for Ann Arbor renters.

Sincerely,

**Alex Haddad** 

Director of Government and Community Affairs Greater Metropolitan Association of REALTORS®

