

Subject:

Apple Playschools Proposed Child Care Project at 503 Miller Ave

From: Ryan Cuppernull**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 8:45 AM**To:** Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>**Subject:** Apple Playschools Proposed Child Care Project at 503 Miller Ave

Hello,

I wanted to reach out as a community member to show my full support for Apple Playschool's proposed child care project at 503 Miller Ave. As a community member in the area, a parent of young children needing child care, and a member of the Apple Playschools family, I think this is a great addition to the community and a step in expanding child care.

Apple Playschools have been a great part of the community and a great place for children, with a unique and community focused approach to child care and youth education. I think their proposed plan also works to bring more child care spots to our community, something we desperately need. I also love how their plan and approach brings the children *into* the community, into the neighborhoods - not on the outskirts, off busy roads or away from the city and neighbors. Looking at the larger plan and conversations happening around Ann Arbor's future, I think their plan not only fits right into that, but also helps push it along. What is more community focused than adding more child care spots directly in the community, bringing the joy of neighbors, walking, parks, etc to both the children and the community itself.

Some additional points:

- Currently, there is only one licensed child care spot for every 7 children in Washtenaw County under the age of 5. Waitlists are long and lack of care is keeping adult caregivers out of the workforce.
- The proposed center will provide spots for 47 more children daily.
- The proposed center is right on a commuter corridor making it a great location for people coming into downtown for work.
- Accessibility by bus, walking, and bike makes this an ideal location for supporting the city's sustainability goals. It is also adjacent to several of the proposed routes for the Treeline urban trail.
- The additional revenue from this center will allow Apple Playschools to increase teacher pay and increase tuition scholarships making child care careers more sustainable for teachers and making child care more accessible for more families in the area.

Thank you for your time!

Ryan Cuppernull
Community member, Apple Playschools parent, concerned citizen, parent needing
childcare
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Ryan Cuppernull