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Dear Chair and Members of the Ann Arbor Planning Commission,

I am the Chair of the Public Market Advisor Commission. The commission is charged with providing support and stewardship of the Ann Arbor Farmers Market.

As the city planning commission knows, the Ann Arbor Farmers Market has been the heart of Ann Arbor's local food system for over a century. It not only brings fresh healthy food from surrounding farms into the city, but it also is critical for food access and contributes to the economic and social sustainability of food and farming businesses in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, and beyond.

The Public Market Advisory commission is very concerned about the ways that the construction at the 330 Detroit Street site will impact the Farmers Market, the Sunday Artisans Market, and neighboring businesses.

I propose that detrimental impacts be mitigated and minimized in the following ways:

1. create a document that clearly and transparently identifies the potential impacts of this construction project on the Farmers Market and neighboring businesses.
2. develop a plan in conversation with the Farmers Market staff and neighboring business owners to minimize the impacts of the construction.
3. hold meetings with the market staff and neighboring business owners to provide regular updates on the phases of construction.

Specific issues that must be address in this plan include

- reduction of noise and dust during critical business hours
- access to the Market, with specific attention to parking along Detroit Street, which is already inadequate on Saturdays.

Staging for the construction on 5th Avenue, rather than Detroit Street, will help minimize the impact of this project on the Farmers Market and surrounding businesses. It will also have less impact on the cobblestone street that adds historic charm to the area. Although this may be an inconvenience in terms of traffic, the City is currently allowing long-term closure of lanes at other construction projects, such as at the corner of South University and East University.

Developing a plan to minimize the impact of the construction at the 330 Detroit Street site will help the Ann Arbor Farmers Market and the surrounding businesses flourish, which in turn will make this location even more attractive for the future residence of this building. Plus, it's part of being a good neighbor.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment and for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa C Young". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa C. Young
2022 Chair of the Public Market Advisory Commission