

From: Justice in MI <justiceinmich@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 1:13 AM

To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>

Subject: The Trinitas Project

Dear Members of the A2 Planning Commission:

I spoke at the last meeting of the Commission on Trinitas's application to proceed with their "Cottages on Barton Green" project.

You well know the points made by the speakers. And, of course, your own considerable list of issues that Trinitas was asked to address and, in one way or another, incorporate into their plan or explain more fully why have have chosen not to do so.

I now learn that Trinitas has decided to, in effect, ignore essentially all of both your own commentary as well as that of the many citizens who spoke. Rather, the plan appears to be to push forward on the grounds that legally they can do so. And so, in that context, fully disregard everything and everyone else.

I am not a lawyer, and I am far from deeply informed on the range of planning issues involved. But I believe virtually anyone knowing this situation will agree that the apparent tactic of Trinitas is, to say it most directly, bullying pure and simple.

If that is an accurate reading, we are left with an issue larger than the very considerable and serious concerns raised about traffic, safety of school children, long and short-term environmental impacts (as related to public transportation, biking, etc.), housing for families and the elderly, and the questionable economic viability of the project itself. We also face what kind of City we are, and whether we are prepared to become what so much of the world has become: the opposite of substantive collaboration and meaningful community.

I would not want to live in such a City, and I believe it accurate to suggest that relatively few Ann Arbor citizens would feel differently. While this dimension of the discussion is, in some respects, the most general, it is also the most foundational.

I hope that the Commission and, if it so evolves, the Council will recognize that nothing less is at issue. And that we will stand together on these principles.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dr. Henry Greenspan
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