

From: Loryn Canty
To: Planning, Jon Barrett, Courtney Manor
Subject: Opposition to Proposal to Demolish Mary Court Homes
Date: Monday, October 20, 2025 10:38:13 PM

Hello,

I hope this message finds you well! My name is Loryn Canty, and I am a current resident at 605 Mary Court. I am writing to urge the rejection of the proposal by David Lewis to get rid of the existing homes on Mary Court.

Though I just recently started living here, Mary Court has been one of the best experiences I've had while attending the University of Michigan. Coming from out of state, I constantly yearn for a community, but Mary Court has given me more than that; it's given me a second family. Each house on Mary Court is filled with character, but we come together and support each other, something that would be lost under the new proposal.

Mary Court's rustic charm is well known among students. In fact, this Friday we're hosting a small music festival with live bands, and next week we'll be holding a Halloween party — just a few examples of the life and energy that make this place special.

When I found 605 Mary Court, I felt like I found gold. From October 2024 to March 2025 I spent hours looking for housing that wasn't overpriced. Getting rid of Mary Court, and replacing it with brand new apartment style housing will only contribute to the unfortunate housing crisis in Ann Arbor. Me, and many of the other residents of Mary Court can't afford \$1500 + in rent. I signed Mary Court with the intention of living here for the last 3 years of my college, and the thought of having to find another place to live gives me severe anxiety.

While I strongly believe Mary Court should be preserved, I would like to offer a few possible alternatives:

1. **Renovate rather than demolish.** If the property owner wishes to update the homes, please consider doing so during the summer months instead of tearing them down completely.
2. **Delay redevelopment until after 2028.** The youngest current residents will graduate by then, giving everyone time to plan accordingly.
3. **Provide comparable relocation options.** If demolition is unavoidable, residents should be guaranteed access to similar housing in both style and price — ideally, four-bedroom houses with affordable rent.
4. **Or simply, let us stay.** Mary Court is a unique and historic part of Ann Arbor's student community. Replacing it with another high-rise apartment complex would erase something truly irreplaceable.

I really appreciate your time, and I hope my thoughts are considered. If you have any more questions on my solutions, please let me know as I would love to discuss them further. I love the University of Michigan, I love Ann Arbor, and most of all I love Mary Court!

Thank you,

Loryn Canty

LSA Honors Student

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