

Subject: Protect the Prarie

From: Benjamin Badalamente
Sent: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 8:03 AM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: Protect the Prarie

Dear Planning Commission,

On behalf of my children, their friends, and our community I urge you to deny AAPS's request to build a road over the South Prairie as part of AAPS' plans to construct a new Thurston Elementary school.

The South Prairie is an essential part of the Nature Center's ecosystem, and destroying it for a road would cause irreversible harm to native biodiversity and decades of community stewardship.

I have been opposed to AAPS' plans for constructing Thurston's new school on the same property as the existing building. I do support new schools for our kids and future kids, but the district has continued to lie to the community it serves and - once again - is ramming through permits at an alarming rate so the community has little time to react.

Fortunately we caught them in the act this time and are hoping you and your colleagues will act on behalf of our - the community's - wishes. Construction is set to begin on June 12 so please look and act on this matter accordingly.

Sincerely,
Ben Badalamente (Ann Arbor resident of 7 years, Thurston Parent for 9 years)