

From: Ellen Abramson <ellen@northcoastbanners.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 31, 2022 2:23 PM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: Comment for 8/3/22 Planning Commission: The George site plan

Hello. My name is Ellen Abramson. I reside at 3204 Farmbrook Ct, Ann Arbor, MI 48108.

I would like to express my concern regarding the proposal by The George to convert its ground floor from proposed retail units to 42 residential units.

I have been an area resident long enough to remember, fondly, the Georgetown mall with its grocery store, hair salon, gift shop and pizza store among other retailers. Years ago, when I learned that The George's plan included ground floor retail, I was enthusiastically supportive. I hoped to be able to meet friends at a coffee shop there, perhaps to have a small produce shop or an interesting gift shop to walk to. The area children for whom my daughter babysat were hoping for an ice cream or candy store! We had full confidence that some sort of retail would be installed and we were delighted about it.

The George is a nice looking building. I'm happy to have it in the neighborhood. But I am very disappointed with the notion that they have not found a way (such as lowering the retail rent as needed for a period of time) to secure retail tenants, and are now seeking a way out of their pledge to the neighborhood.

How about a compromise? A few more residential units but maintain a substantial number of the planned retail?

Thank you for your consideration.

-Ellen Abramson

Ellen Abramson
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"Be kind because everyone you meet is fighting a great battle" -Ian McClaren