

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Environmental Commission; Donnelly, Erin](#)
Cc: [Ivan, Amalia](#)
Subject: Vote 4/24/25 on Resolution to Protect Natural Features, Biodiversity and Sustainability in Ann Arbor City Planning and Development
Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 11:32:52 AM

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To the Ann Arbor Environmental Commission:

I understand the City of Ann Arbor is in the process of updating its comprehensive plan with a strong focus on increasing the density of housing within the City. As an Ann Arbor resident, I support the overall goal of adding some housing density but I also want to ensure that the plan also increases the protections for natural space, features, biodiversity and sustainability.

The Environmental Commission will be voting on a resolution, "Environmental Commission Recommends the Inclusion of Natural Features Sustainability in Ann Arbor City Planning and Development", at your Thursday, April 24, 2025 meeting. As someone who has studied architecture, I know the critical importance of the need for a natural environment with green space and biodiversity, along with limited building height, to help maintain a psychological balance, not only for individuals but for groups of people living together within a city environment. We are witnessing cities around the world that did not take their natural environment and sustainability into consideration as they were developing and expanding and are now desperately searching for ways to bring natural space, features, and biodiversity back into their cities.

I support this proposed resolution so that the City is ahead of the game by anticipating the needs of higher density population, to not build over the natural environment that already exists but to continue to incorporate it and sustainability initiatives into the City planning.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Janet Rieke