

**Subject:** Please Direct the Planning Commission to Begin Zoning Reforms in 2026

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**From:** Shang Kong

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 4, 2026 6:29 PM

**To:** Radina, Travis <TRadina@a2gov.org>; Ghazi Edwin, Ayesha <AGhaziEdwin@a2gov.org>

**Cc:** Ryan Lakin; Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>; City Council <CityCouncil@a2gov.org>

**Subject:** Please Direct the Planning Commission to Begin Zoning Reforms in 2026

Dear Council Members Travis and Ayesha,

My name is Shang Kong, and my wife Ryan Lakin and I live in the 3rd ward by the County Farm Park.

We are writing to urge you to **direct the Planning Commission to begin zoning reforms this year** rather than waiting for a potentially multi-year overhaul of the development code. When you adopt the Comprehensive Plan, please also pass a companion resolution directing the Planning Commission to bring forward an initial package of zoning changes in 2026, without a lengthy consultant-led process.

People are being priced out of our city now, and delaying reforms means years of preventable harm -- higher rents, longer commutes, fewer neighbors, etc. The U.S. Constitution was drafted and finalized in just four months -- surely Ann Arbor can update its zoning code faster than "several years" as contemplated by some.

As a lawyer (I'm an in-house counsel at the Wall Street Journal), I've seen how organizations can move quickly when they prioritize actionable remedies. Every year we delay is another year our zoning laws make housing artificially scarcer and more expensive.

Thank you,  
Shang