

Subject: Comments on the Packard apartment project

From: Lucy Trapp

Sent: Saturday, November 18, 2023 10:07 PM

To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>

Subject: Comments on the Packard apartment project

Regarding the proposed construction of apartments on the block between Packard and Madison, 4th and 5th Ave,

As a resident of one of the homes that will be demolished to make way for yet another gentrified, upscale apartment building, I would like to express my extreme disapproval and disappointment with the City of Ann Arbor. It nearly brought me to tears when I heard that my home with affordable rent is set to be flattened to cater to wealthy, out-of-state students able to spend hundreds and even thousands more than me on monthly living expenses. Homes that stand for more than just buildings and shelter. They are historic farm houses built when Ann Arbor was in her infancy. Take a walk up and down our block. See the cobblestone foundations, watch the leaves dance on trees now marked for slaughter, smile at the rabbits hopping through the little nature they still have left. Experience the joy of hardworking students that make this city what it is converse on an old porch that has countless stories to tell. Just see the vibrancy of it all.

Then, go over to Main St, just south of Madison. Walk along the shiny new apartment buildings only accessible to the richest of students. Is it as lively? Are there trees speckling the block? Do you encounter any unprivileged students constantly working hard to maintain their place in an increasingly elitist city? Do you see the same grit in their eyes? No

If you must destroy these buildings and force me to move away from my first home, please consider why you are allowing a rich company to invade this land rather than building affordable housing. I understand that more people could be housed on this block than are currently, but why must that come in the form of yet another high rise apartment building. Consider what this city stands for: equity, progress, acceptance, etc. Does this project align with those objectives? I would vehemently argue no. We are better than this, Ann Arbor. Do better.

With the utmost sincerity,
Lucy Trapp

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