

To: Matt Kowalski, City Planning Staff
Wendy Rampson, Planning Manager
Jack Eaton, Council Rep
Graydon Krapohl, Council Rep

Subject: Paved Roadway Connection to Lambeth

It has been brought to my attention that the developer of the 2250 Ann Arbor-Saline Road Condo Development has submitted revised plans. These plans include a paved road connection to Lambeth and, as such, to the rest of Lansdowne.

The other day I walked over to Lambeth to determine for myself what the impact of having this roadway may be. Before continuing, please note, I live on Morehead Court and South 7th. Both are dead-end streets and therefore the Lambeth roadway project does not have a major impact on me directly. With that said, I am very opposed to the project given many nearby neighbors that will be negatively impacted.

In over half a century, Lansdowne has developed into a very quiet, residential community prized by many young families with young children. Major selling points of the area include the convenient locations of both Lawton School (on South 7th) and Lansway Park. Both the school and the park are gathering points for many young children year-round. A paved roadway connection primarily servicing the needs of a 75 unit condo complex will undoubtedly add much more traffic to the neighborhood. The roads that will be most impacted are readily identifiable as Ascot Rd., Chaucer Rd., Lansway, Delaware and South 7th. The obvious concern is for the safety of the many children living throughout Lansdowne. Perhaps, a less obvious concern is the unintended consequences of the added congestion in an area prized for safety and tranquility. Taken together, these two issues alone, among others, should support the proposal being rejected.

I understand and support the need to provide adequate housing as Ann Arbor grows. This growth serves to expand our tax base giving Ann Arbor the ability to continue to meet the needs of its residents and maintain its vibrancy. Recognizing the positive benefits of growth, we should also strive to be considerate of the neighborhoods in which these developments occur. The neighborhoods have been standing much longer than the new construction. Ideally, the result of new construction should be to complement what exists while simultaneously not creating new problems going forward.

In addressing this issue, I wanted the opportunity to make you aware of my point-of-view as well as those of other Lansdowne residents.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this matter.

Thank you.

/s/ Burt Diamond, 07/20/2015