

From: Meisler, Miriam [<mailto:meislerm@med.umich.edu>]

Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 9:30 PM

To: CityCouncil

Subject: Circle K Redevelopment & the neighborhood

We all live in our own small ecosystems. For 38 years mine has included the corner of Stadium and Packard. That's a lot of years to walk the sidewalks, cross the streets, patronize the local stores, and buy gas. It is a lovely quiet peaceful neighborhood, good for children and other living things. Of course, traffic is a problem on many streets. The biggest intersection in the neighborhood is Stadium and Packard, and it is difficult to drive through or walk across. A very long traffic light, heavy traffic, wide street to cross. Crossing with small children is challenging. You've got to keep your eyes open, even when crossing with the lights. The proposal to redevelop the Circle K gas station on the South-West side of the intersection raises some concerns. With another gas-station on the South-East corner, there is certainly no un-met demand locally. I never have to wait for a gas pump at either gas station. So the customers for an enlarged station would come from elsewhere. The biggest concern is the increased traffic and the peculiar traffic pattern that is proposed in the current plan. With a single exit onto Packard, close to the corner, the potential for congestion entering and leaving the station is great. And the danger for pedestrians crossing Packard on the South side will be great. Many children walk around this neighborhood. Readers of the New York Times will be aware of the continuing toll of pedestrian deaths in that city, very often at busy corners and affecting people who are crossing legally with the light. Bringing in more traffic to a busy corner in a residential neighborhood just does not make good sense. Quality of life is something precious that we enjoy in Ann Arbor and need to protect carefully. I call on City Council to drive through the intersection yourself at various times of day, patronize the Circle K gas station, look over the entrances and exits, and try to image how the new traffic pattern would work. Then you can make an informed decision about whether the value to your constituencies warrants issuing the requested variance. You will be the Deciders, not the planning commission or any other group. So please think about the impact on the neighborhood and vote your conscience!

thanks for reading,

Miriam Meisler
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5 blocks from the intersection.