

Subject: Old and White

From: Madeline Wright
Sent: Friday, July 11, 2025 11:55 AM
To: Manor, Courtney <CManor@a2gov.org>
Subject: Re: Old and White

Thank you so much, Courtney Manor. Could you please share with the Planning Commission this note as well, including the following exact quotation? I transcribed it from the CTN video of the July 1, 2025 Planning Commission meeting. Here it is:

"The majority of the people who created the Pause the Plan are older, are white, and aren't representative of the diversity, age, and where we are going in this town. Many of them bought in when housing was far more affordable, when life was far more affordable, and can't fully comprehend how difficult it is to afford a life here in Ann Arbor."

Astonishingly prejudiced! EACH HUMAN BEING AND EACH ETHNIC, RACIAL, OR NATIONAL GROUP IS DIVERSE FROM EVERY OTHER. We are all diverse. I'm mostly Swedish. That makes me diverse from people whose ancestors came from Burkina Faso.

Furthermore, some of us old folks have found living in Ann Arbor massively expensive. That's one of the reasons why I left.

And don't tell people they "can't fully comprehend" something. Another insult! Old, therefore stupid; white, therefore bigoted.

Absolutely astonishing. And, again, very revealing of the commenter's own prejudice.

With thanks, and with a plea to be listened to, just like everyone else of every age and every ancestral group,
Phyllis Madeline Clare Wright

On Fri, Jul 11, 2025 at 10:17 AM Manor, Courtney <CManor@a2gov.org> wrote:

Hello Madeline,

Thank you for your email. Your comments will be shared with the Planning Commission.

Have a nice day.

Courtney Manor
Administrative Assistant, Planning Services

City of Ann Arbor | Guy C. Larcom City Hall | 301 E. Huron, 1st Floor · Ann Arbor · MI · 48104

(O) · 734.794.6000 | Extension 42618

cmanor@a2gov.org | www.a2gov.org

From: Madeline Wright

Sent: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 8:10 PM

To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>

Subject: Old and White

"A2 For All." Isn't that one of the guiding principles? Then why have I heard several times-- most recently during the public comments portion of the meeting before July 4th-- that people who are "white" and "older" generally oppose the Comprehensive Land Use Plan? I am 72, I am of Scandinavian, German, and English descent, and I oppose the plan.

Do I oppose it because of my age and ancestry? Really? Is anti-white, anti-old prejudice the last acceptable prejudice?

Anyway, I left Ann Arbor. I'm in Texas where I belong. I left last March. If the Comprehensive Plan were not threatening my former house with the approach of a bulldozer, I probably would have stayed. Ann Arbor was a jewel when I moved there in 1998. I made many choices to stay through the years. The Comprehensive Plan was the dreadful nudge I needed. I'm old and white, so the white-haters and old folk-haters can rejoice that I am gone and will not return.

How awful to hear whiteness and old age spoken of with such scorn. I hope you agree.

I also noticed a recent map from the city with no "Build a lot!" or any other "Build" notices for Ann Arbor Hills, just as I predicted. Rich people remain safe and sovereign on their land.

With thanks for providing a way to communicate with the planners, and with best wishes in spite of sadness,

Phyllis Madeline Clare Wright

formerly in the Thurston neighborhood, which appears to be a primary target for densification