

From: Aaron Palmer
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2023 10:41 AM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: Avalon Housing Ann Arbor Catherine St. Development...

To who it may concern,

I'm writing to express my support for Avalon Housing's Cathrine St. development in downtown Ann Arbor. I am an Ann Arbor resident who lives in a federally subsidized City Housing Commission apartment, however I do work very closely with Avalon, their on-site social worker at my apartment complex, and I am a member of Avalon's VOCAL peer support and advocacy group.

Without the help of affordable housing I most likely would be a homeless alcoholic right now. Avalon, Ann Arbor Housing Commission has give stability to my life, by granting me a home. Prior, I was chronically homeless, camping in City Parks, or sleeping on homeless shelter floors, spending the majority of my days trying to figure out where I'd get \$10 for my next bottle of alcohol. In and out of hospitals, jails, and psychiatric units my life, the quality of my mental state, how I internalized my being was in dire condition. I was lifted out of the homeless abyss, afforded a quality of life I had never known before. I did struggle with drinking for a time after being housed, but I am proud to say that now I have almost one year of happy, sober living. I take part in community activism advocating, supporting people who I can relate to, because I was those people; they come in all shapes and sizes, colors, creed, but we share one common denominator, and that is we are all, were equally destitute people desperately seeking a better way of life: Avalon Housing offers that to people who would normally be denied an apartment, home rental opportunity. Avalon Housing supports Justice in our Community by providing social equality though housing, something many communities neglect, and would rather incarcerate a homeless individual than help them become an equal.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comment.
Have a wonderful day!

Aaron