

Subject: comment for May 20 meeting
Attachments: 2025.05.20 City Planning Commission comment sent.pdf

From: Lisa Young
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 4:37 PM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: comment for May 20 meeting

Attached please find the comments that I will read during the public comment portion of tonight's meeting. Thank you.

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Lisa C. Young

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Lisa C. Young

Comment for the Ann Arbor City Planning Commission May 20, 2025

My name is Lisa Young. I live at 816 Third St.

I am here tonight as the current chair of Public Market Advisory Commission (aka PMAC). PMAC serves to advise the Mayor and City Council, the Park Advisory Commission and the Market Manager regarding issues related to the operation of the Ann Arbor Farmers Market.

As the planning commission knows, two new buildings, the 330 Detroit Street condominiums and Dunbar Tower, are currently under construction within a block of the Ann Arbor Farmers market. Since fall 2024, construction on these projects has been concurrent.

Both projects have resulted in street closers that have impacted access to the market for both vendors and customers and have exacerbated the perpetual parking problems on market days. Last summer, during the initial phases of the 330 Detroit Street construction, the noise from welding made conversations impossible during multiple Wednesday markets.

Open and cooperative communication with market staff has helped mitigate the impacts of these construction projects on the Market. The Dunbar Tower team has done an excellent job working with the market staff. Issues that arose during the initial phases of the 330 Detroit Street construction improved when a city staff member was assigned to help facilitate communications and logistics with the Market manager.

With the approval of the Braun Court project and the proposed expansion of the **303** Detroit Street building, members of PMAC are deeply concerned about the ways that these projects will impact the Farmers Market, especially if they happen at the same time.

We request that the planning commission in cooperation with city and market staff facilitate the development of strategies to mitigate the impact of these projects on the Ann Arbor Farmers Market. Annually, the market supports 125 food and artisan vendors. An assessment by the Michigan Farmers Market Association estimated that attendance at a Saturday market in early August last year was over 7000 customers. Ensuring that customers can get to the market with minimal hassle is essential during construction projects. Noise reduction and safety is especially critical for the **303** Detroit Street expansion.

Basically, we are asking that these projects be good neighbors to the Farmers Market, which has helped make the Kerrytown District such an attractive location for the development of both high-end and affordable housing. A plan to mitigate the impact of

these construction projects is critical to maintaining the vitality of our Farmers Market and its important contributions to growing Ann Arbor's local food system.

With my time remaining, I am happy to answer any questions from the planning commission.