

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Environmental Commission](#)
Subject: Preservation of Natural Features
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I am writing in support of the Environmental Commission's Resolution to include natural features sustainability in Ann Arbor City Planning and Development. I urge the Environmental Commission, the City Planning Commission and the Mayor and City Council to ensure that the Comprehensive Land Use Plan incorporates the principles and policies set forth in the 2004 Natural Features Master Plan and the updated Plan of 3/20/25.

Ann Arbor residents value our green infrastructure, our woods and native forest fragments, heritage trees, extensive parks and green neighborhoods. They said so in public meetings about the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Many are concerned that intensive development will result in a loss of tree canopy and natural features. As Ann Arbor grows, it is imperative to do everything possible to preserve natural features and green infrastructure, to design with environmental sustainability—including the sustainability of the natural environment—at the forefront. Climate change will stress our residents, communities and natural features, but those features, carefully stewarded, can also do much to support climate resilience.

I strongly support the Environmental Commission's recommendation that the City develop actions and strategies to integrate built and natural infrastructure in a way that respects and protects Ann Arbor's natural landscape and ecosystems. We must measure gain or loss of biodiversity. We must align the A2Zero Plan, the actions of the Office of Sustainability and Innovation and those of the Environmental Commission, as well as the protections afforded to natural features in historic districts to ensure that Ann Arbor has an integrated approach to development and sustainability that foregrounds stewardship of our natural environment throughout the City, on public and private land, including all properties that are sought for development.

Thank you.