

Subject:

Quality of Life and Single Family Neighborhoods

From: Jeff Crockett**Sent:** Tuesday, July 15, 2025 11:32 AM**To:** Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>**Subject:** Quality of Life and Single Family Neighborhoods

We live at 506 E. Kingsley in an R4C neighborhood.

On page 38 of the CLUP, there is the following statement about Quality of Life:

Residents consistently expressed appreciation for the strong quality of life that Ann Arbor offers through its vibrant neighborhoods, abundant parks and recreational spaces, employment opportunities, and other valued amenities. However, there is concern that as the city grows and evolves, the very characteristics that make Ann Arbor special could be at risk of being lost.

One of those characteristics is single-family neighborhoods. Absent from the CLUP survey is the feedback from parents with children who live in single-family neighborhoods. How do you think parents with children would feel about a house next door being demolished and replaced with a multiplex? Imagine the disruption of the construction and streets being torn up for new sewers? How would they feel about 12 new strangers living next door? I am concerned that the increased density may prompt some parents with children to move to other communities with single-family neighborhoods. Alternatively, parents with children moving into the area may opt for Chelsea or Saline, where single-family neighborhoods are particularly popular. All of this will impact the school enrollment in Ann Arbor, which has been declining. Who will be moving into these multiplexes? It seems highly unlikely that families would consider a multiplex with no private backyard.

All of this suggests that the CLUP should be paused to engage the parents of families with children and to articulate the potential risks of this dramatic zoning change. Supporters of increased density are quick to point out the potential benefits of eliminating single-family neighborhoods. But they have failed to document the potential risks. Ann Arbor voters deserve to be informed about the potential side effects before deciding on whether to support the CLUP. Please pause the Plan to consider ways to reduce the risk of upzoning for parents with children.

Thanks for your consideration, Jeff and Chris Crockett