To the Ann Arbor City Council,

As a tax-paying resident of Ann Arbor, I write to protest the proposed re-zoning of 2857 Packard Street from Single Family Dwelling District to Planned Unit Development District. I am not in general someone who is anti-development and I have no philosophical objection to multi-dwelling facilities. Indeed, for most of my life I grew up in them and have cherished the sense of community that they can establish, a sense that is often lost in the especially (though certainly not uniquely) American aspiration of a single family home as the marker of upward mobility.

Much as I know the virtues of community living, I also know that the streets of Ann Arbor were not built with them in mind. If you have, (as I am sure you all certainly have), attempted to drive on our "thoroughfares" such Washtenaw Avenue anytime near rush hour (or anytime other than late evenings and night) you know that they are often more like parking lots than roads. Packard's traffic situation is not quite as bad, but it is close. I frequently drive these streets and do not welcome the prospect of more vehicular traffic on them. Until the city can find ways of expanding the roads (or constructing new ones -- remember I am not against development), I would oppose any further mass development of housing -- not just at this particular site, but anywhere where vehicular traffic would make further demands on the roadways.

Thank you for allowing me to register my protest in this matter.

Regards,

Gaurav Desai