

September 5, 2019

The Honorable Mark S. Meadows
Mayor, City of East Lansing
410 Abbott Road
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Re: Potential Rezoning of City-Owned Evergreen Avenue Property

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

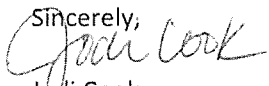
On behalf of The Peoples Church of East Lansing, this letter will serve to inform you of our opposition to the potential rezoning of the City-owned Evergreen Avenue properties from a RM-32 district to a B-3 district. We strongly believe the properties should remain zoned RM-32 in compliance with the City Master Plan.

We understand part of the rationale for considering such a rezoning decision is to hopefully incentivize a larger number of responses to the forthcoming RFQP process; however, we urge City leaders to wait and see what responses are received first, now that the process is competitive, as a rezoning decision may not be necessary.

Further, The Peoples Church respectfully requests that the City follow its own rules and guidelines in this process. There is a clear written process published by the City when it comes to community input in development matters (Public Participation Plan document). The Downtown Development Authority, the Planning Commission, and the City Council need to hear from and consider input from those most directly affected by any potential proposed development.

As previously stated, it is very important to The Peoples Church that City leaders understand we are not opposed to progress and development in our community, specifically in the Evergreen/Oakwood/Valley Court Park area and on both sides of Grand River Avenue. We have significant requirements relative to proposed development, including but not limited to adequate public parking (including Sunday parking) and ask for a process through which these concerns can be communicated and addressed.

Thank you for your ongoing consideration of our needs as community members of the Evergreen/Oakwood/Valley Court Park neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Jodi Cook
Chair, Council of Elders
The Peoples Church

200 W. Grand River Ave.
East Lansing, MI 48823
P: 517.332.5073
F: 517.332.1971
ThePeoplesChurch.com

cc: Mr. Aaron Stephens, Member, East Lansing City Council
Ms. Shawna Draheim, Member, East Lansing City Council
Ms. Ruth Beier, Member, East Lansing City Council
Mr. Eric Altman, Mayor Pro Tem, City of East Lansing
Mr. George Lahanas, City Manager, City of East Lansing
Mr. Daniel Bollman, Chairperson, East Lansing Planning Commission
Mr. Peter Dewan, Chairperson, Downtown Development Authority