

Patti Gearhart

From: Mike Ulrich <dandevul@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 2:24 PM
To: City of Ferndale Comments
Subject: 2025 Proposed rezoning

EXTERNAL EMAIL

Mike Ulrich
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11/11/2025

To the Honorable Members of the Ferndale Planning Commission / City Council:

Subject: **Opposition to Proposed Rezoning to Allow Apartments in Our Single-Family Neighborhood**

Dear Members of the Council,

I am writing to respectfully express my deep concern and opposition to the proposed rezoning of the Church and Main section from single-family residential to multi-family or apartment use. My family and I have made our home in this neighborhood for 8 years, and we have come to cherish the unique character, safety, and sense of community that our single-family zoning has preserved.

This neighborhood is more than just a collection of houses — it is a community built on connection, stability, and shared responsibility. Children play safely in front yards, neighbors look out for one another, and long-term residents have invested their time, resources, and hearts into maintaining a peaceful environment. Allowing apartment development would fundamentally alter the balance that has made this area such a special place to live.

While I understand the city's need to accommodate growth and diverse housing options, this specific rezoning would bring significant challenges:

- **Traffic and safety:** Our streets were not designed to handle the increased congestion that a large multi-unit development would bring.
- **Infrastructure strain:** Aging infrastructure could be overwhelmed along with additional strain on the water and sewer.
- **Loss of neighborhood character:** Multi-story apartment buildings would stand in stark contrast to the scale and feel of our single-family homes, eroding the cohesive look and calm atmosphere that define our community.
- **Environmental impact:** Increased density may lead to greater runoff, noise, and pollution, affecting both residents and local wildlife.

I urge the Council to consider the long-term implications of this rezoning. Growth is important, but it should be thoughtful, balanced, and consistent with the city's comprehensive plan and the values of its residents. There are more suitable locations for higher-density housing that would not disrupt established neighborhoods like ours. Also, we were not notified (as well as other neighbors) of this proposed change. Please make sure all affected property owners are notified timely.

Please protect the integrity of our community by denying this rezoning request. Our neighborhood's identity — and the safety, beauty, and spirit it embodies — depends on your careful stewardship.

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration of our voices.

Respectfully,
Mike Ulrich
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