



ANN ARBOR COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL

517 E. Washington Street

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

734-769-7966

www.a2preschool.org

September 28, 2011

Planning & Development Services
City of Ann Arbor
301 E. Huron Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48107
ATTN: Wendy Rampson, Planning Manager

Re: Proposed development of The Varsity on Washington Street

Dear Wendy Rampson:

The Ann Arbor Cooperative Preschool is a tenant of the First Baptist Church at 517 E. Washington, which is adjacent to the site of the proposed Varsity development. Our classrooms and playground face Washington Street. Our school operates from September through May on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:30 am through 4:00 pm.

We are concerned about how the demolition and construction at the Varsity site will impact our school operations. Specifically, we are worried about possible exposure of the preschool students to hazardous materials released during demolition as well as general noise, dust, and traffic during demolition and construction. The three major ways that we expect a large construction project to affect our school are by making the playground unusable, making our windows unusable, and by interfering with drop off and pick up of the children. Outdoor play is integral to our curriculum, and we use our playground twice each school day all year long. Our classrooms are not air conditioned, so we rely on open windows for cooling and ventilation during warmer days of the fall and spring. Approximately 40 parents use the First Baptist Church driveways and parking lot on Washington Street for drop off and pick up of their children each school day.

Please be sure the developer includes steps to lessen the impact on our school in its plan to mitigate the effects of demolition and construction on neighbors. Also, please send to me any existing mitigation plan that the developer has already submitted.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about this request. My home phone number is 734-622-0014 and my email address is laurahouk@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for your consideration and assistance.

Sincerely,

Laura Houk

Chairperson, Ann Arbor Cooperative Preschool