

From: Kitty B. Kahn [<mailto:kkahn@comcast.net>]

Sent: Saturday, March 02, 2013 2:03 AM

To: Planning

Subject: Connecting William Street

Dear Commissioners- When you are presented with the DDA's Connecting William Street plan at this week's Planning Commission meeting, please think about what kind of city you would like Ann Arbor to be as you make your decision. Do you want tall buildings on every piece of vacant land downtown, as the DDA proposal suggests? I fear that, should this proposal be implemented, it would not attract more people to downtown, but would rather drive them away. Green space is necessary for a healthy, low-stress environment and the DDA's plan does not include any green space except for one tiny square on Fifth Avenue - next to another large building. The DDA persists in saying the public agrees with their proposal, but this is not true. The survey on which they are basing this claim did not include any questions about green space. It did, however have a few places for comments and a great number of people used these opportunities to say they want green space downtown. And many people have attended meetings of the DDA, the Parks Advisory Commission and City Council to voice their opposition to the Connecting William Street plan and ask for green space downtown. The Calthorpe Plan also came to the conclusion that there should be green space downtown. In fact, the Calthorpe Plan said the perfect place for such green space would be a green roof on the Library Lane parking structure. The DDA ignores the findings of the Calthorpe Plan and ignores the wishes of the citizens of Ann Arbor.

The Parks Advisory Commission has just begun their work studying where a park would best fit into the plan for these five publicly owned parcels.

Please let them finish their work and don't make a hasty decision that we may well come to regret when it is too late.

Please consider a park on top of the Library Lane underground structure.

Thank you. -Peace, Kitty