

From: Lynn Borset [lmborset@umich.edu]
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 11:18 PM
To: Thacher, Jill
Cc: glendale-action@googlegroups.com
Subject: 312 Glendale, the retention pond

Categories: Attention Needed

Hello Jill,

Neighbors are raising significant concerns about the open retention pond proposed on the 312 Glendale condo site plan. While the pond is apparently necessary for adequate stormwater management, it poses problems too.

Of course, the most important issues are safety and health. When the pond is full of water there is the danger of drowning; when it is empty, the steep pitch of the sides poses a fall hazard. While there is a protective fence, ponds are an “attractive nuisance” drawing curious children -- of which there are many in this densely populated neighborhood. The location of this pond, immediately adjacent to the Glendale Dr. sidewalk and the pedestrian path connecting east/west sections of our neighborhood makes it particularly visible and accessible to passers-by. This not only increases the safety risk, but makes it an eye-sore in our neighborhood.

Standing water and wet or damp ground pose health risks, from breeding mosquitoes and other insects and the diseases they spread, to attracting geese and their related ‘dirt.’ These potential health risks are far from desirable in our densely populated neighborhood.

I understand that the WCWRC approved this site plan for stormwater management, but they defer to the City for final judgment about the overall efficacy of the site plan. *Are there City ordinances or regulations that outline standards for building and maintaining “retention ponds” of this type? What oversight or enforcement is there?*

There are significant trade-offs here between stormwater management and the issues this retention pond poses. It is really not acceptable that one solution causes other problems.

I will appreciate it if you can answer the oversight questions above. If this is helpful in your report to Planning Commission, please feel free to include it.

Thanks for all your help,
Lynn

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