

From: Haughee, Christopher [<mailto:chaughee@umich.edu>]

Sent: Monday, February 21, 2011 12:40 PM

To: Planning

Cc: Rick Stepanovic (rick.stepanovic@gmail.com)

Subject: Special Exception permit for 730 Tappan

Planning Staff,

Attached is my letter supporting Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity's request for a special exception zoning permit for the property at 730 Tappan. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Chris

Chris Haughee
Assistant Director of Greek Life
University of Michigan
734-936-3686

February 21, 2011

Planning and Development Services
City of Ann Arbor
100 N. Fifth Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647

Re: Special Exception Zoning Permit for 730 Tappan

Members of the Ann Arbor City Planning Commission:

I am writing in support of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity's request for a Special Exception from zoning in order to purchase property for a fraternity house at 730 Tappan Street. I am completing my 6th year as Assistant Director of Greek Life at the University of Michigan. My primary responsibility is to advise and support the Interfraternity Council (IFC) composed of 31 fraternities, of which Sigma Phi Epsilon ("Sig Ep") is one.

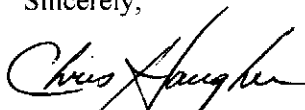
I am very familiar with the Sig Ep chapter. It has consistently been one of the high performing chapters during my tenure. In the last 10 years, it has been recognized as the top IFC chapter 4 times, including 2010. Chapters are judged on programming, alumni relations, community service and philanthropy, involvement in the campus and local community, recruitment, risk management, membership development and academic achievement. The chapter has also been recognized by the National Fraternity for excellence in operations and activities.

One of the reliable characteristics of the chapter has been its strong leadership. The chapter officers are knowledgeable and well-trained. A number of Sig Ep members have served with distinction on the IFC Executive Board, as well as other Greek-affiliated groups. The National Fraternity provides outstanding resources, education and support to the chapter. When issues arise, both the chapter and the National Fraternity have been very responsive and cooperative in addressing the concerns. There have not been many such instances during my oversight.

The proposed location for this fraternity house is consistent with most of our Greek community – along the geographic periphery of campus on State, Hill and Washtenaw. The chapter has resided in this particular area – the southwest corner of campus, for many years, though in various residences over the last 10 years. Establishing a permanent residence at 730 Tappan would benefit the chapter, the Greek community, the campus and the City of Ann Arbor. I urge your favorable consideration of the request for a special exception zoning permit.

I trust this information is helpful. Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,



Chris Haughee
Assistant Director of Greek Life