

DATE: July 16, 2013

TO: Ann Arbor Planning Commission

FROM: Lynn M. Borset, 322 Virginia Ave.

RE: Speaking for the Trees, 312 Glendale Dr. condo development site plan

This is to supplement comments I plan to make at the July 16, 2013 Planning Commission meeting.

I am a member of the Advisory Committee for the development of Ann Arbor's first Urban and Community Forestry Management Plan.

An inventory of 312 Glendale shows there are over 60 trees on the property. The vast majority of them are 10 or more inches in diameter, therefore they provide the benefits of mature trees. Over 80% of these trees are to be removed to accommodate the proposed condo development.

Quoting from the Ann Arbor's forestry website:

"Trees reduce stormwater run-off, improve water quality, reduce energy demand, offset carbon dioxide emissions, improve air quality and provide other benefits associated with aesthetics, increased property values, and quality of life."

"Stormwater run-off is the most prevalent water quality problem in the nation. One 16" sugar maple tree can intercept 1763 gallons of stormwater run-off each year."

"Trees in the urban environment decrease the quantity of stormwater run-off and improve the quality of run-off that eventually reaches local lakes, streams, and reservoirs."

Using the calculator available from the City's forestry website I calculated the annual value of a few of the existing trees on the "old orchard."

A 20" diameter apple tree: intercepts 1,578 gallons of stormwater for an annual value of \$12.62, and reduces carbon dioxide levels by 245 pounds per year valued at \$10.08 annually. There are 17 apple trees, ranging from 8 to 20 inches in diameter on this site.

A 10" diameter black walnut tree: intercepts 1,132 gallons of stormwater for an annual value of \$9.06, and reduces carbon dioxide levels by 360 pounds per year valued at \$10.15 annually. There are 24 black walnuts, ranging from 9 to 28 inches in diameter, on this site. That is 27,168 of stormwater mitigation, 8,640 pounds of reduced carbon dioxide levels, for a combined annual value of \$461.00.

Loss of these trees will cause both aesthetic and economic losses for this neighborhood.

TreeCommentsfor071613 PlanComm.doc