

From: Jim VanderMolen

Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 12:45 PM

To: Steve Fridsma

Cc: Zeller, Elizabeth <ezeller@grand-rapids.mi.us>; Ysasi, Milinda <mysasi@grand-rapids.mi.us>; Turkelson, Kristin <kturkelson@grand-rapids.mi.us>; Knight, Lisa <lknight@grand-rapids.mi.us>

Subject: Re: Community Master Plan - designation of Nature Preserves

As Steve Fridsma's neighbor, I'd like to second the issues raised in his letter and encourage increased protection in the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance of nature preserves and adjacent properties from insensitive, out-of-scale and out-of-character development. While we both strongly support efforts to improve access to housing in our city, we do not believe that goal should be met at the expense of rare community assets like Huff Park. Yes, as direct neighbors of Huff Park and a potential large-scale development site along Knapp Street NE adjacent to Huff Park, we have a personal and financial stake in preserving our relationship to the park and the neighborhood, but that does not minimize or negate the soundness of our cause. This is not merely a case of NIMBYism (despite being literally in our backyards), but a valid concern shared by thousands of our neighbors who have supported our preservation efforts.

Thank you for your consideration.

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