RESIDENT CORRESPONDENCE
OCTOBER 2017 DEVELOPMENT PLANS

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: I don't understand

Good morning. Regarding Planned Development No. 739 south of Kelley Park.

As a home owner in Orchard Pointe for the past 16 years, I have seen a vast amount of development in this area, beginning with Home Depot.

However, there are alot of things about this particular plan that I do not understand.

1. Why do you ask for input from the community AFTER construction has begun.
2. Why are you taking part of what is, or could be, Kelley Park (perhaps expand the park, not limit it)
3. I do understand the city's need for tax revenue but when is enough enough (or is there never enough).
4. Traffic volume, with 4 new apartment buildings plus a Co-op being erected in this area - it is bad now.

Thank you.

[redacted] Florist Circle
Apple Valley, MN 55124

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Sunday, October 08, 2017 5:13 PM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: Apple Vally Notice of Hearing

To Whom it May Concern:

I live in the townhouses on 154th Street, between Foliage Avenue and Flagstaff. I am against the building of any more apartments or condos in this neighborhood. In the last year, several multiple family housing units have already gone up just to the west and south and north of the area in the attached map. We do not need any more.

I am against building more units because it will limit the area of "green space" surrounding the park. We will not be able to enjoy the park if all we can see are more buildings.
Also, traffic is already busier because of the recent housing units that went up.

Sincerely,

[redacted] 154th Street West
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Resident Correspondence
May 17, 2017 Planning Commission Meeting

From: [redacted] [mailto:]
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 1:27 PM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: Public hearing

City Council,

My family and I live in Apple valley now for over 11 years and have enjoyed every minute of it.
This city offers everything for a very high quality of life and makes it a perfect place to raise a family for generations.
Today I received the notice about the hearing on May 17th about the proposed building site. To be honest, this is something that really concerns me and my neighbors.
Over the past few years the city has approved and allowed residential buildings all over town. We, as residents and parents, have noticed the changes.
First and foremost, schools are feeling the effect of increased housing. Classes sizes are increasing by the year and not by one or two kids. This year, my son's class have 5 kids more than it should.
Traffic has increased and accidents are on the rise (just check police records). Kids are no longer as save as they used to be in our streets. Too many distracted drivers as is, why increase the risk?
With the number of houses built in past few years, home values have not gone up and most places are turning in to rentals and affordable housing that can, and did, bring petty crime all over town.
Our trees and landscape are dwarfing between large buildings and structures, creating narrow streets and a downtown feel. That is not the reason people want to live here.
I understand progress and the need for capital, but some sacrifices are not worth and on the long run people will suffer, our system will no longer be sufficient to support the amount of residents. What will we do then? Pave parks for parking?
I will be attending the meeting along with many of mine neighborhood friends to discuss this option and voice our concerns and make our objection heard.

From: [redacted] [mailto:]
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 8:56 AM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: Planned Development #739

Good morning. Regarding Planned Development #739 - 2 apartment buildings

I have lived on Florist Circle in AV since 2001 and have seen a great many changes in this area over the years. From Home Depot to more townhomes and apartment buildings to pumpkin patches replaced with a hotel, a park, restaurants and shops, to luxury apartments across from the park and on and on.

Don't get me wrong, these changes are not all bad, however, they have created an incredible increase in traffic on all the affected streets in this area.

Now 2 new apartment buildings are already under construction next to Kelley Park, adding an additional 240 (to possibly double that) vehicles to these streets around here.

Since construction is already underway, I assume it will continue no matter what the community has to say.

I would be interested to know what plans have been made to accommodate the additional people, vehicles and traffic.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

[redacted] Florist Circle
Apple Valley, MN 55124
952-[redacted]-[redacted]

From: [redacted] [mailto:]
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 9:57 AM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: Planned Development No.739

I cannot attend the proposed meeting on Wednesday, May 17, but do want to voice my concerns.

I have recently purchased a town home on Founders Lane across from the Ecumen center. The reason I did purchase was because there was no obstructed views and "5 floor buildings" obstructing the park and I felt like I was more in a "family residential" setting than an Apartment MASSIVE MULTI LEVEL living environment. By allowing them to put up these huge buildings, not only are you obstructing our view of the park, but you CLOSING IN THE PARK, by the large apartments. You are adding more people in an already highly congested area. You are increase the opportunities for crime and you are aesthetically ruining the appealing side of Apple Valley as a community.

I don't have a problem with a small 1 level retail setting like on Galaxie – to provide some new shops and small restaurants to the area that will make it more appealing for those townhomes and apartments already there, but by building and house so many apartments, it will ruin the landscape of the area and take the park away from all of us homeowners in the townhome areas adjacent.

Why would you do that? Take away the one park we have. Not only that, if you put these huge unit complexes there, the park will overflowing with people and ruined in no time. I will certainly move.

I don't know how others feel, but I just moved here last August and I will move again based on what the planning commission is allowing to happen to that land. I feel that land should be kept as a park and expanding that park, not limiting it to make us a mini NY.

I'm only one voice, but I know others feel the same. You lower our property values considerably with this plan as well.

One, not happy Apple Valley Citizen.

From: [redacted] [mailto:]
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 9:15 PM
To: ; Murphy, Joan
Subject: Re: Orchard Pointe Residents - Apple Vally Notice of Hearing

To Whom it May Concern:

I live in the townhouses on 154th Street, between Foliage Avenue and Flagstaff. I am against the building of any more apartments or condos in this neighborhood. In the last year, several multiple family housing units have already gone up just to the west and south of the area in the attached map.

I am against building more units because it will limit the area of "green space" surrounding the park. We will not be able to enjoy the park if all we can see are more buildings.
Also, traffic is already busier because of the recent housing units that went up.

Sincerely,

[redacted]
[redacted] 154th Street West
Apple Valley, MN 55124

From: "[redacted]" <[redacted]>
To: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 1:30 PM
Subject: Orchard Pointe Residents - Apple Vally Notice of Hearing

Please send all responses to [redacted]

Orchard Pointe Residents,
There will be a public hearing for the proposed use of land west of Foliage Ave and north of 153rd St for a 4 story apartment complex, as detailed in the attached notice and map.

This meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 17th, 2017 at 7:00pm at the Municipal Center, 7100 W. 147th Street.

Respectfully,
[redacted]
Senior Community Manager

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 11:59 AM
To: Murphy, Joan
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Amendment Meeting 5/17/2017

I had planned on attending the meeting this evening regarding the proposed mix use development around Kelley Park in Apple Valley. However, I will not be able to attend.

I wanted to send in the following, in hopes that the planning commission might consider a few different options for that space.

Planning Commission,
Apple Valley is a very desirable location in which to reside, I myself have lived in Apple Valley for 8 of the last 10 years, all within the area south of 42, north of 160th and between Flagstaff and Foliage.

Kelley Park is a "stones throw" from my current residence in the Orchard Point development.

Considering the already high density of town homes, apartments, and condos in the area, all with little to no "yard" space. I respectfully urge the planning commission to not approve the proposed spaces for additional

apartment style dwellings. I've listed below my personal opinions on different options for that space that would lead to a greater community!

What would I like to see happen in these lots instead of apartment buildings?

- Dog park
  - the nearest dog park to this area is 3.6 (Alimagnet Dog Park) miles away, considering the style of homes in the area (townhome and apartments) having the option to take pets to a close by open space would increase peoples community satisfaction. I live in a townhome where I'm required by law and Association rules to keep my dog on a leash at all times. It would be so nice if I could walk across the street /down the block to a dog park and let her run! In fact, in my townhome development alone, I would argue that 50% of residents own a dog.
  - Having a dog park in the community would offer an opportunity for the local residents to get to know each other. Dogs cross cultural and demographic barriers

- Expanded picnic/shelter areas
  - Kelley Park is a very busy place in the Spring, Summer and Fall. Most often when I am walking around the park area during those months, you see families that don't have a table to place there picnic lunch, or a sheltered area to keep them out of the sun. While there is a smaller sheltered area, I believe the traffic to the park requires additional shelters and picnic tables.

- Community garden
  - Much like my argument for a dog park, there is a great opportunity to increase community satisfaction by creating a community gardening space. Again, given they style of homes in the area, no one is able to or has ample enough space to plant a vegetable garden or grow flowers.
  - Having the ability to garden and grown food can also contribute to tackling the issue of "food insecurity" that is happening in Dakota County. An estimated 13% of children in Dakota County are food insecure. What if by developing a community gardening space, families and children were able to economically grown nutritious food options? 8% of the total population of Dakota County is food insecure, that's more than 32K people!
  - Link to document: https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Government/publiccommittees/CHA/Documents/Nutrition.pdf

Other options for this space:

- Prairie Restoration/Preservation
- Skate Park
- larger play ground area
- better parking (off street) for park visitors
- Gazebo
- Water Pond (rain water filtration)

In the neighborhoods immediately surrounding Kelley Park, this open space is invaluable. It offers the opportunity to get a breath of fresh air, take a walk, enjoy the sun or watch the sunsets.

There is so much development happening in Apple Valley, and it's only increased in the last 2 years, I kindly request that the planning commission not approve the development of additional apartment buildings, but consider alternative options that will better reflect the needs of the area and increase community pride and satisfaction.

I am available to discuss the above further if needed.

Best,

[redacted] Flower Way
[redacted]

From: [redacted] [mailto:]
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 1:40 PM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: PD-179

Hi,

My name is [redacted], I am a lifetime Apple Valley resident and recent property owner in the legacy townhomes development near PD-179. I apologize that this is a bit late, and realize that at this point my comments may not matter as the meeting was last week regarding this, but the letter notifying me of the public hearing got lost in the bustle and I only just read it yesterday.

Unfortunately I have to say that I am **extremely** disappointed in the way that this area of Apple Valley has begun to be developed.

When I bought my home over a year ago, word on the street was that this area of Apple Valley, referred to as the "Central Village" was planned to be a development that would attract young professionals and young families out of Minneapolis, by providing a similar experience in a suburban environment.

As one of these young professionals, I had high hopes for an area that would include Kelley Park, and that would eventually include more apartments yes, but include more developments like the legacy shops (which includes Panino Brothers). Something like what Maple Grove has done with their shops at arbor lakes, which have parks and apartments within walking distance of the shops and unique restaurants and bars. This walkability is a quality that attracts people to the Uptown area of Minneapolis in droves.

Seeing that more Parkside apartments are currently going in on the lot off Galaxie, and that they are advertising themselves on their website as a way to experience city life in the suburbs, it was then all the more disappointing to learn that not only are more apartments going in in blocks 9 and 10, but that the new PD-179 on block 10, is going to have an indoor park instead of the possibility of unique bars, restaurants, and shops, all within walking distance, that might have actually made the "Central Village" a place that people would want to spend their time in.

Upon learning this I could only conclude that either A, Apple Valley has abandoned that original plan for a destination central village, or B. They *severely* misunderstand what people enjoy about living in the city.

My demographic (even, or from what I have witnessed, especially those who live in areas like Apple Valley) typically travel out in the evenings/weekends into places like uptown Minneapolis, for the variety of walkable bars and unique non chain restaurants. Something I had hoped to experience a bit of in this proposed central village, to enjoy the walkable nature of a place like uptown, without the hustle and bustle of the city. Most importantly from the perspective of the city, many of us seek a way to remain (i.e spend our money) in the area on the weekends, but have yet to find an experience similar enough to draw us back in.

Apple Valley had the opportunity to create a wonderful space surrounding Kelley Park, in which seniors, families, and young professionals could all find things to enjoy. Instead, it appears to be shaping up only to be a "Central Village" in the fact that it is centrally located, and has the highest density of residents.

My apologies if that was blunt, but I felt it was important to explain the disappointment I, and many of my fellow residents are feeling, that this area is being robbed of it's potential to be a true destination within Apple Valley.

--

[redacted]

[redacted]

Email: [redacted]
Phone: [redacted]