

July 13, 2020

We live at 5453 Prospect Drive and have a number of concerns relative to the proposed rezoning of the quarry at 2920 Expo Parkway. These concerns pertain to traffic congestion, overcrowding of schools, and impact on wildlife and nature trails.

1. The proposal does not take into account the impact on Reserve Street, which is not only a Federal highway but the city's major north-south artery for shoppers, commuters, and delivery, service, and emergency vehicles. During peak travel times, traffic volume has risen to an intolerable and dangerous level. The proposed development will only increase the amount of congestion affecting this vital urban corridor.

2. The proposal does not take into account the impact on area schools. The construction of 960 apartment units will increase substantially the number of children who will attend Hellgate Elementary and surrounding Middle Schools. This will cause overcrowding and eventually lead to an increase in property taxes to finance the construction of new schools.

3. The proposal does not take into account the impact on the Grant Creek wildlife corridor with its adjoining network of nature trails. The influx of anywhere from 2,000 to 4,000 new residents will seriously compromise our delicate nature trail system, much of which consists of game trails that cannot be easily repaired. It is imperative that the Grant Creek wildlife corridor be protected, a critical habitat for elk on our urban fringe.

We ask that you take these concerns into account as you consider approving the proposed Expo Parkway development. The large concentrated number of proposed residents violates the safety, character, and resources of our beloved community.

Respectfully,

Fred and Lynda Skinner

