

8/2/23

Attn: Gregg Hampshire
Executive Director – Creston Neighborhood Association

Hello Gregg,

I apologize if this is not written well or has any typos, however we have full schedule today and it very recently came to my attention that there is an expectation that we were to present a plan to the neighborhood tonight.

As I shared prior, before and during our prior meeting with neighbors, we work to give full inclusion, and hear their concerns and what they would like to see. That said, we then work to use that information to create concepts that work well, both now and long term, to best serve the overall critical housing needs of Grand Rapids.

Anyway, we are still not ready to present any plans to the neighbors.

Please note, we did recently explore one concept from an engineering feasibility standpoint. Some pros and cons to this concept, so when we have time, we will continue tweaking and exploring additional concepts. With any concepts we develop, we strive to make them work with neighbors' comments implemented as possible. For example, we want to be sensitive the building height, footprint size, nice in standard tree canopy, apply green space, properly managed resource management, and save existing structures.

We also believe it is considered best practice and more considerate to conduct these initial engineering/feasibility studies before taking neighbors' personal time on designs that may or may not actually be feasible to construct. We will continue to be considerate of the neighbors' time.

Gregg, we do want to support you and based on your prior emails we too are fielding some misguided inquiries also. As I mentioned, you are always welcome to call us and will give you the best real-time information, to help settle or cure any misguided concerns. Again, feel free to share we are just in a holding pattern and working on concepts when time allows us. We don't have any plans to share yet, and no new updates for you or neighbors other than what I have already shared with you and them before in person. If we have any new reasonable material updates or progress that are pertinent to the process we will share it with you right away.

Gregg, we are sorry if there was some confusion on when we would present an actual plan to neighbors. Respectfully though, we did not confirm we had a plan or vetted out concept to share, and we certainly did not request any meetings to be canceled on our account. We would only be sharing the same inclusive information as before at the last neighborhood meeting we attended in person – that we are listening and implementing neighbors' ideas and concerns from our prior meeting into any plans and will share when we are ready. All that remains the same, as we committed.



We do have other in-process, time-sensitive projects and are focused on helping our clients with those. We are certainly thankful to be busy and will honor these prior commitments and time allotments. We just are not ready to show any plans yet or have any new material updates.

Gregg, I am not sure when we will be ready to present concept plans to the neighborhood, it may be some time from now and we do not want to set any unrealistic timetables that we cannot honor. We will proactively reach out and let you know so we can set up a meeting with neighbors when ready. Regardless of that unknown timeframe, I want to reiterate that we have heard the neighborhood comments and will continue to work to put the best plan forward with those comments in mind when the time comes. We will only present plans to the neighborhood when those plans are thoughtful to neighbors, thorough on the engineering feasibility, contain good quality time-tested design work, as together we work towards the overall betterment of the city of Grand Rapids.

As always, please free to call me anytime and here to help! Please feel free to share this letter with the neighbors as well.

Warm Regards

