

Have the members of the Planning services department seen 2551 Sherwood Heights Dr and the surrounding areas? The description of the surrounding areas in the original proposal (OPA 1504.03) was very misleading. This land on the corner of a residential street (Kingsway Dr), and is sandwiched between a large park/adjacent parkette (Kingsford Gardens), and a green belt that surrounds the Ford plant. So, designating it as an area for business development will greatly disrupt the green barrier that surrounds the park and adjacent residential neighborhood. I feel strongly that this land should be designated as a natural area to isolate the neighborhood from industrial features like the Ford plant, and to allow our hawks, foxes, coyotes, and wild turkeys to thrive. However, if that cannot be done then I think the designation should be more community oriented to ensure that we preserve the value of the park which our municipal tax dollars have already paid for.

I have attached a compilation of pictures of 2551 Sherwood Heights Dr as seen from the walking path through this park/parkette (where arrows point to the greenery of 2551 Sherwood Heights Dr), so the members can see how development at this site will alter the landscape. Business owners are not invested in the community and can heartlessly allow properties to become rundown when they are less profitable than anticipated. Staring at rundown offices or industrial buildings will greatly diminish the experience of the women who face this property while doing tai-chi on weekday mornings; the hockey teams (Hornets and otherwise) who bring their kids to the ball hockey court for some fun training; the teenagers who frequent the basketball net and ball hockey courts; as well as the patrons of the soccer fields, community gardens, community orchards, and the dog park.

On a personal note, my family has always referred to this parkette as “the big kid park” because it does attract teenagers, and I personally feel that it is especially important for the teenagers from the co-op housing to have a nice park to go to.

Thank you for your time,
Melany Wagner



