From: Glenn mitchell
To: *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject: Highland Bridge variance
Date: Tuesday, March 4, 2025 9:48:14 AM

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Hello:

My name is Deb Mitchell and I have lived in Merriam Park for 38 years. I'm having a hard time understanding why it's okay to grant a variance for fewer residential units in the Highland Bridge project when all I have heard for the last few years is that we need more density. Density, density, density has been the city council's mantra (along with more bike lanes) for years. The changes to zoning were supposed to help. Have you driven down Cleveland between Marshall and Summit recently? Single family homes have been torn down and many bedroom monstrosities are now sprinkled between single family homes. It's ugliness personified. it doesn't fit into the neighborhood. Homeowners are being eliminated to put apartments in their place, sometimes in the middle of all single family blocks. This isn't how zoning in residential neighborhoods should work. The Bridge was supposed to provide a lot more housing. That's what was promised.

That would make sense. A variety of housing options for different size families and incomes. If we truly need more housing, then what was promised needs to be built at the Highland Bridge project. Thank you.