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Sent: Friday, August 21, 2026 9:41 AM
To: Michael E. Parks; Pamela S. Ulmer; Thanh Dang
Subject: Webform submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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Submitted values are:

Name

Sara Leichty

Type of Meeting

Harrisonburg City Council

Date of Upcoming Meeting

2026-08-25

Agenda Item Number

6a

Comment

I am against the rezoning of the Lindsay property for the current proposal by Timberwolf. The development is clearly constructed for luxury student housing with the bulk of apartments 4BR/4Ba. I am for housing that attracts young professionals or retirees or families, but not for more students. If housing is targeted for that demographic instead of students, it would bring year round dollars to a variety of downtown businesses (not just Jack Browns or Billy Jacks for 9 months out of the year), they are not interested in attending parties at the Forkovitch house right across the street, and they bring a beneficial and stable presence to our downtown. However, they cannot pay the kind of rent prices that will be asked with luxury student housing, nor are they interested in living in a building dominated by students. Young professionals are also past the stage of wanting to live with multiple other roommates, which makes the 4 BR structure less fillable by anyone other than students.

You have other options for that space that would far more benefit the community: the expanded park idea is a long term investment that would significantly improve our downtown in one of the most visible points of entry, both for community and tourists. Alternatively, creating housing for adults (both workforce and retirees) would be a fantastic addition to our downtown.

JMU has concrete plans underway that dramatically decreases off campus demand, then what happens to unnecessary student housing?

Please, vote no on this redistricting. Listen to community that has vested interest in our downtown, not the voices with tremendous personal financial incentive who either live in the county or completely out of state. What will your legacy be on this community?