From:	Dickinson ND
To:	Sylvia Miller
Subject:	Homeless shelter zoning for Evergreen location
Date:	Wednesday, May 14, 2025 12:57:44 AM

Name: Miki Thompson Email: nateandmiki@gmail.com

Message: Good evening, My name is Miki Thompson and my family and I own a home in the neighborhood just west of The Evergreen facility. I am writing to say that we do not agree with a homeless shelter going in so close to a residential neighborhood. I am concerned about two main things. Home/property values and safety. It is a fact that properties that are within 500-1000ft of these types of shelters lose value just due to being near them. An estimated 7% loss depending on how close. That would be a significant loss of revenue for the city and greatly affect the homeowners in this neighborhood. I also want to point out safety. Our community has worked hard to get the attention of businesses that would benefit its residents. We have great stores like TJ Max, Hobby Lobby, and new restaurants coming into town. Also great businesses like Runnings, Harbor Freight, and Britton Jewelers all within two blocks from this proposed site. Businesses would have to deal with the loitering and panhandling. The intersection of sixth Ave and 21st St is a very busy intersection. Many pedestrians already have issues trying to navigate and cross safely. Adding a homeless population would be highly adding to the danger. Also, when a shelter moves in crime in the area does rise. Trespassing, theft, drug related crimes among other things will rise. The police presence needed would put a strain on our first responders. These opinions come with experience. I grew up in a city in Wa State that moved a homeless shelter in a similar area. Unfortunately, businesses that had been there for 50 years and generations had to move or close down. The neighborhoods near there became very unsafe quickly. I have also seen other cities go from walkable, safe, enjoyable places to unsafe places with businesses closing down, their once beautiful parks overrun with encampments. Is it possible for our community to conquer what little homelessness we have here? Yes. But we cannot put the horse before the cart. We have to have services before a shelter. If you build it they will come and with that we need more mental health services, drug and alcohol rehabilitation services and halfway houses. We need veteran services. We already have trouble housing and feeding our current population. The building might be perfect but the location is not. Thank you for your time. Miki Thompson