

Date: 6-4-25

To: City of Dickinson Planning & Zoning Board

Re: Opposition to Special Use Permit SUP-002-2025
United Way Group Living Facility

Hello, my name is Shelly Koppinger and I have lived in the North Hills Townhomes for the last 24 years. I am writing because I am not comfortable with public speaking, but I strongly want to voice my opposition to the location being proposed.

First of all, I want to express how much I do believe in the United Way Organization. My whole working life I was a contributor to United Way at all of my jobs. I even volunteered with helping at United Way events. While I agree with a need for a Group Living Facility such as this is, **I STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH THIS LOCATION** of the former Evergreen building. I understand that it has been proposed before at other locations and has been denied. Our Townhomes are only 300 or less feet from the proposed building. I believe that this location is the closest yet to residential homes, and those other locations got denied. That this would be acceptable is just not right. I do understand that being there is already an existing building in place, it would maybe easier and tempting, but not acceptable! I also understand that it is a very difficult job to find the correct location for something like this, but there has to be a place not close to residential homes. This is literally **Our Backyards!**

Along with the safety issues, there is also traffic issues, staffing & funding issues. I understand that the start up is all set and figured out, but there are no guarantees that any of this will continue. It is a known problem to keep staff at any business in Dickinson, even though they would have enough to start. Also as far as the funding goes, at this time in our government cuts, grants and funding are not ever for sure. Eventually it could fall on all of us tax payers in Dickinson.

I'm hoping and trusting that you, as a Board Member will please consider all of our issues and protect us. Please also keep in mind that this is not a matter of all of us not caring about other people who are having troubles in their lives right now – we do care and understand, but **THIS LOCATION IS NOT THE RIGHT LOCATION!** Please take into account the location. I strongly agree with the community needing this, but not this close to residential homes!

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns and hopes.

Sincerely,

Shelly Koppinger

