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Rochester Hills Planning Commission
The City of Rochester Hills, Michigan
1000 Rochester Hills Drive
Rochester Hills, MI 48309

I am presenting today to request input from members of the Planning Commission concerning a study proposing hometown improvement. Working with decision-makers in the community will be highly valuable as part of my 3rd Year Landscape Architecture curriculum at Ball State University. During the Spring 2010 semester, I will be joining 40 fellow students on an extensive Architecture & Planning trip throughout Europe and Asia. Our studies will culminate with a project that uses our experiences and gathered knowledge to propose the enhancement of our communities.

As a lifetime resident of Rochester Hills, I have been working on three proposals that I believe address serious issues in our community, both as a part of Metro Detroit and as a unique destination. The attached document describes each alternative in greater detail. Currently, the proposals include:

- 1) Connecting Oakland University and Downtown Rochester
- 2) Creating Sustainable Entertainment for Younger Generations
- 3) Establishing a Regional Transit System

During my visit with Ed Anzek and Maureen Gentry on August 12, we also discussed a very interesting idea of redeveloping the "Old Town" at Auburn & Dequindre.

Before I begin to develop any one proposal in depth, I would love to hear suggestions for other alternatives that could possibly benefit our city and how my current proposals could be improved. Additionally, I would like to ask if members of the Planning Commission could serve as a type of 'client' or review board while my project is developed overseas and at Ball State. Any constructive criticism and thoughtful suggestions will greatly improve the value of my studies.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope that we can work and learn together to achieve a greater understanding of Rochester Hills and what the future may hold in store for our community.

Sincerely,

Mark Sandberg