



CGF Meeting Feedback

Form

City of Grand Forks

Submitted On:

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Meeting Type:	Planning & Zoning
Full Name	First Name: Dan Last Name: Kasowski
Full Address	Street Address: 873 Orchard Cir. 873 ORCHARD CIRCLE City: GRAND FORKS State: ND Zip: 58201
Agenda Item Number / Topic:	Rezoning of Ray Richards 3-2 & 3-3
Comments:	<p>January 6, 2026 Grand Forks Planning and Zoning Commission 255 N 4th St Grand Forks, ND 58203</p> <p>Dear Grand Forks City commissioners,</p> <p>On behalf of the GardenView Townhome Association, representing 46 tax-paying residents at 3400 Meadow Drive, I write to express our strong opposition to the proposed rezoning and redevelopment of the University of North Dakota's Ray Richards Golf Course.</p> <p>The current plan would introduce 167 multifamily rental units and a year-round driving range/entertainment venue with structures reaching up to 160 feet in height. Such a project is wholly incompatible with the surrounding neighborhoods. GardenView, located directly south of the site, is a quiet, well-established community of residents aged 55 and older who deliberately chose this area for its safety, stability, and proximity to open green space. The proposed development threatens our neighborhood with decreasing home values, traffic congestion, noise, light pollution, and safety risks, eroding the very qualities that make this community so desirable.</p> <p>Beyond local impacts, Ray Richards Golf Course is not just recreational land—it is a defining green space that shapes Grand Forks' identity and provides a welcoming gateway along Demers Avenue. Once this open space is replaced by dense construction and towering structures, it will be lost forever. No compromise or design adjustment can restore what will be permanently destroyed.</p> <p>While UND has made revisions in response to resident concerns, the fundamental issue remains unchanged: our community does not want apartments or amusement-style venues imposed on this neighborhood. The proposal disregards the clear and consistent opposition expressed by GardenView residents and many others in surrounding areas.</p> <p>Ray Richards Golf Course was closed in 2016 as a so-called cost-saving measure and reopened in 2021. Prior to closing, the golf course was profitable</p>

or at least breaking even. According to UND, however, since reopening it is now losing money. The residents of Grand Forks should not bear the consequences of poor decisions made by a previous UND administration, especially when those decisions diminish our quality of life?

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Planning and Zoning commission to deny the rezoning request and preserve Ray Richards Golf Course as open green space for the benefit of current residents, future generations, and the character of Grand Forks itself.

Thank you for your careful consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

Dan Kasowski

President, GardenView Townhome Association

873 Orchard Circle

701-739-7911
