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I am in favor of and feel that the plans for this new home (across the street from me) would be an asset and an improvement to the street and the neighborhood. It will raise the value of the whole street and the neighborhood. While we have several things going on this street that have pulled the value of our homes down, this Mr. Mink and his plans would not be one of those things. Mr. Mink is quiet and respectful, keeps his properties up, and will continue the history of the properties in this area being owned by families.

I understand there might be an objection from one neighbor because his house gets flooded. The flooding isn't just because he sits in the flood plain, but because the area is in sore need of an engineer to correct very poorly placed or nonexistent storm drains on E 2nd Pl, S Urbana Ave, E 2nd St, and S Vandalia Ave.

The two drains on S Urbana Ave are on the high side of the street, none are on the low side, hence water runs like a river down the curbs of E 2nd St which only has two drain openings right at a neighbor's house, thus frequently creating some very spectacular fountains as all that water converges.

While you may say the man's house is in the flood plain being his problem, the funny thing is that during that major river flooding a couple of years ago, his home didn't flood when the river overflowed its banks. No, it was a rainstorm after the river settled back down. The flooding was due to the "rivers" running down the curbs from S Urbana Ave and E 2nd Pl, and from S Vandalia Ave hitting the only 2 storm drains ... all at once. Of course, some of the damage to his house came as a couple of thoughtless large pickup trucks raced through the high water sending waves crashing into his garage doors. Now, this is a problem that lowers the value of all the homes on this street and in this neighborhood. Storm drains are not the homeowners' problem to fix.

I am sure this Mr. Mink will do everything he can to not add to this problem. But will those who need to address the lack of adequate storm drains ever get around to rectifying their problem? Now that is the real issue and question.

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