MN_Review, Environmental (DNR)

From:	Timothy Cossalter < timcossalter@outlook.com>
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Subject:	Upper Post Flats

The use of the Upper Post Flats for affordable housing seems like a reasonable use at initial review as we need more affordable housing, the space is available, centrally located, and in close proximity to transportation, namely the light-rail. However, establishing housing in this area, which has a persistent and consistent higher noise level (DNL), is not reasonable. I believe it sends a negative message on how we should treat individuals looking for affordable housing; house them in a less or the least desirable location.

In addition, placing a significant housing development within close proximity to the airport safety zone also appears to be pushing the limits in order to utilize the space and preserve a historic site. Can we site housing in this location? Probably, but is it the best use or an expedient answer to the question of use?

Has establishing this historic site as an economic development zone been considered as a better alternative? An opportunity or development zone which would refurbish the historic buildings into offices, light manufacturing, or start-up companies would ultimately be more beneficial. Although it requires a different initial focus, the long term benefits can be measured, whereas housing does not provide any added long term economic impact.

I believe we can do better environmentally, socially, and economically.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment. Thank you

Tim Cossalter 651-269-1221 timcossalter@outlook.com