

Green Space Romeo

Appendix B:

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

www.GreenSpaceRomeo.org

Green Space Romeo conducted widespread community engagement prior to submitting our proposal to purchase the property at 297 Prospect Street. This engagement builds on our connections with the community that were built as the Green Space on Prospect Street project developed throughout 2024. By engaging community members and organizations, we are not only seeking to demonstrate that our project has strong community support – we also are gathering commitments to support and volunteer to ensure the long-term viability of the proposed Green Space on Prospect Street. This document compiles those engagement efforts and results.

Survey Results

The survey entitled “Green Space on Prospect Street – What’s Next?” was launched on Survey Monkey on February 2, 2025, and closed on February 24th with 318 respondents. It was set to accept only one survey response per person or browser IP to prevent anyone from submitting multiple survey responses. Here are some key takeaways; detailed results and full text of comments are included in this document. See Section I.

- **318** surveys were completed
- **83%** of responses came from residents of RCS communities
- **95%** selected one or more of the provided green space options as the best outcomes for 297 Prospect Street
- **70%** indicated they were willing to speak up on behalf of the project.
- **105** detailed comments were provided

Public Comment at Board of Education Meeting – February 24, 2025

69 supporters of Green Space on Prospect Street attended the RCS Board of Education meeting on February 24th. **14** people spoke eloquently about their reasons for supporting the acquisition and preservation of 297 Prospect Street. And the reasons were diverse and many. Here is a link to the WBRW video of the meeting on [Facebook](#): Comments start at around 1:17:00.

Letters of Support to the Board of Education

Community members were invited to submit letters of support of Green Space on Prospect Street and our proposal to acquire the property and preserve it as green space for the community. The 20 letters we received are included in this package. Several of these have also been emailed to Board members. See Section II.

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Pledgers and Donors

Over 200 individuals and businesses have pledged their financial support for the acquisition of 297 Prospect Street or have donated to the Four County Community Foundation project fund. The total pledges and donations to date equals \$429,000. The pledges are in four categories. Full list of pledgers and the amount of their pledges is included. See Section III.

- Diamond - \$150,000 and more: 1 donor / total \$150,000
- Platinum - \$50,000 to \$149,999: 1 donors / total \$50,000
- Gold - \$5,000 to \$49,999: 16 donors / total \$137,000
- Silver - \$500 to \$4,999: 66 donors / total 61,000
- Bronze - \$1 - \$499: 97 donors / total \$11,000
- Funds at the Four County Community Foundation: \$20,000 from 23 donors and event revenue

Open Letter to Romeo Community Schools Board of Education

The “Open Letter to the Romeo Community Schools Board of Education” was distributed for community members to sign and document their support for the acquisition and preservation of 297 Prospect Street as green space for community benefit. Paper petition-style letters were distributed in person by community members beginning January 24 through March 1. The online signature form for signatures was launched on February 1, 2025, and closed on March 1. The online form provided an opportunity for comment and for signers to indicate if they were RCS alumni and the year they graduated. The complete signatures are attached. See Section IV. A (paper signatures) and IV. B (online signatures).

- **715** total signatures were collected using paper (412) and online (322) forms
- **78%** of signatures came from residents of RCS communities
- **101** detailed comments were provided on the online forms

Our Stories

In 2024, we asked community members to share their personal history with the Prospect Street property and tell us why they felt that “This Place Matters”. 46 stories were collected and shared on social media and the Green Space Romeo website. The “Our Stories” project began with interviews by Sue Beaudry Wiers in early 2024 of several Romeo Community Schools alumni. The project was picked up again in November 2024, with a social media challenge created to share stories of why “This Place Matters”. What evolved was a worldwide response and 33 consecutive days of individual and collective stories. As more people have expressed an interest in sharing how they want to be involved in this story process, we are continuing again in March 2025 with a new story every Sunday. Visit https://www.greenspaceroomeo.org/our_stories/. See Section V.