From: <u>Nicole Muench</u>

To: <u>Vending Oversight Committee</u> **Subject:** Agenda item 3 11/30/22

Date: Wednesday, November 30, 2022 1:48:38 PM

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Hello Meghan, Andrea, Marlys, and Micheal.

Here is my statement on the recent proposal to move and eliminate vendor sites during the DC farmer's market.

- 1. For many of us, the Farmer's market is our main, and sometimes only, avenue for earning money and supporting ourselves and our families. Removal of these key sites at the head of state street would be financially detrimental to many small businesses who have earned these prime locations, both financially and through dedication to their business, livelihood, and community.
- 2. Small businesses, like those who bend at the farmers market, are a necessary part of keeping a sense of community in our ever-expanding city. Money earned by these vendors is money that stays local. Many vendors source, sell, and buy locally. Removing these spots would not cause financial strain on small businesses, but to the community that they are a part of.
- 3. Bike traffic through the farmers market crowds is unreasonable and dangerous. These sites do not block bike traffic into the farmers market completely, as bikers could choose to take alternative routes, if they absolutely have to risk biking through the dense crowds at the Farmer's market. Alternatively, the farmers market is a widely known event that happens every Saturday from April- November, always. Bikers are able to plan ahead and find alternative routes or transportation for the mere 7 hours that the vendors are set up.

To conclude, I would like to say that I feel like the decision to remove these sites would be putting inconvenience over the livelihood of many key members of the Madison community.

Thank you for considering my statement, Nicole Muench