

**From:** [Fields, Debbie](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Liquor License 2702 East Washington Ave  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 4:15:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [Opposition to 2702 East Washington liquor license.pdf](#)

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Alders,

Attached and below, please find a message that was received in the Council Office inbox.

Thanks,  
Debbie Fields  
Program Assistant 2  
Common Council Office  
608-266-4297

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**From:** melissameyer608@icloud.com <melissameyer608@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 3:58 PM  
**To:** council <council@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Liquor License 2702 East Washington Ave

You don't often get email from [melissameyer608@icloud.com](mailto:melissameyer608@icloud.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

My name is Melissa. I live on the corner of Kedzie and East Lawn Court. My kitchen and bedroom windows look out on the gas station and food business at 2702 East Washington Ave.

I'm also a daily dog walker, which gives me plenty of opportunities to observe activities in our neighborhood.

I've lived on the Near East side for 30 years, 8 years at my current address. I could not attend the licensing committee meeting due to last-minute notice by the city.

I am deeply, gravely concerned about the property at 2702 East Washington as it is currently run, with no alcohol sales.

Madison Municipal Code Violations with the property in question include:

Chapter 25.09 - Chronic Nuisance Premises

Chapter 26.01 - Public Indecency

Chapter 27.05 - Safe and Sanitary Maintenance of Property

The decision to grant a liquor license will only exacerbate existing unresolved problems.

This property itself is mismanaged and left to deteriorate. In spite of repeated complaints from the health department, the owners ignore litter and debris on the property. This is

unsightly, attracts vermin, and poses a health hazard to the community. Despite efforts to address the problem, the situation has not improved for years. The addition of an alcohol license will only exacerbate these issues.

Along with the usual food wrappers and napkins, I routinely find empty “pocket shot” bottles, condoms, and needles. Lately we’ve added latex gloves and baby wipes and an empty fridge to the debris (see pics).

Words do not do justice to the amount of actual filth sitting in the parking lot daily for years. Their dumpsters are not maintained at all, and piles of litter, including food waste, are left on the ground for months at a time. To my knowledge, their grease bin has never been cleaned (see pic). I cannot have a birdfeeder or compost at my house because of rats that make their living at 2702 East Washington.

Their fences are broken, and random pieces of broken concrete have piled up. Not one dollar or one minute of effort has been put into maintaining or securing this property. I have never seen an employee or owner clean up any debris. That’s an extreme statement, I know, but it’s true.

There is zero security in the parking lot, and drug deals happen there daily. I routinely hear shouting matches and scuffles, especially after dark (which is 4:30 here in the winter). Owners have made no discernible effort to keep customers and the public safe.

I will walk 5 blocks out of my way to avoid this parking lot. it is simply not safe.

Let’s also talk about saturation. We have two liquor stores within .1 mile of this gas station (Rocky’s at 2734 East Washington and Trixie’s at 2929 East Washington). There is zero need for another liquor store on this block. Since changing owners last year, Rocky’s has added lights and security cameras and dramatically cleaned up its parking lot. I am not opposed to liquor stores in general.

Council, I urge you to take this matter seriously and deny the license for this location. Adding alcohol sales to a business already fostering drug sales prostitution and vermin is just not a good idea. Please deny this license.

## **Denying a Liquor License for 2702 East Washington Ave: Protecting Community Well-being**

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