



From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Edgewood proposal
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:00:23 PM

From: Rena Gelman <rena_gelman@live.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Edgewood proposal

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

I oppose the Edgewood request.
It is contrary to the neighborhood climate.

RG

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Edgewood Stadium - VOTE NO
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:00:48 PM

From: David Seth Gevers <dsgevers@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 1:50 PM
To: Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Edgewood Stadium - VOTE NO

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Dear Tag,

Thank you for your thoughtful summary of the Edgewood stadium issue coming before the council. It is ridiculous to think that adding a stadium with lights and amplified sound will not impact the surrounding traditional neighborhood and lakeshore. As a resident within earshot of the proposed stadium, I am adamantly opposed to any compromise that involves new lights or amplified sound. We have made a decision to live in a dense urban neighborhood and as part of that we make daily sacrifices. But Edgewood's insistence that they are owed a stadium regardless of the impact it has on the neighbors' quiet enjoyment of their homes is obscene. It is one thing to handle the crowds and noise of Badger game days on a handful of days a year, but to allow for an unlimited number of night games with amplified sound is a tragedy right in the heart of our community.

I strongly urge the council to reject Edgewood's appeal of Plan Commission's denial.

Thank you,
David

David Gevers
Former Vilas Neighborhood Association President 2014-2015

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Edgewood College sports events
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:46:33 PM

From: Heidi Gottman <hgottman73@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:43 PM
To: Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Fwd: Edgewood College sports events

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----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Heidi Gottman** <hgottman73@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 30, 2020 at 2:40 PM
Subject: Fwd: Edgewood College sports events
To: <district13@cityofmadison.com>

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Heidi Gottman** <hgottman73@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 30, 2020 at 2:35 PM
Subject: Fwd: Edgewood College sports events
To: <mayor@cityofmadison.com>

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Heidi Gottman** <hgottman73@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 30, 2020 at 2:29 PM
Subject: Edgewood College sports events
To: <allalders@cityofmadison.com>

Hello Alders--

My family has been a resident of the Edgewood neighborhood since 1933, and until the last few years has enjoyed a good relationship with the college. It is thus terribly sad to witness the disrespect that has been shown to residents concerning the aggressively pursued expansion of the sports program there. This recent attempt to win over the alders at the expense of Edgewood's neighbors' peace of mind is not only galling, but threatens to disrupt the peaceful

quality of life in our area. If the college were to succeed in their plan, we would endure increased night noise and traffic jams. This would be an unnecessary assault on the continued preservation of one of Madison's finest and most desirable areas.

I hope you will not accede to Edgewood's demands.

Sincerely,

Heidi P. Gottman

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Vote NO on Edgewood High School's Appeal
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:05:04 PM

From: Claude Kazanski <ckazanski@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:01 PM
To: Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Vote NO on Edgewood High School's Appeal

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

Dear Alder Tag Evers and Other Members of the Common Council,

Please vote NO on the Edgewood High School appeal regarding its request to allow lights at school's outdoor stadium.

I have lived at 2233 West Lawn Ave for 28 years. Our block is parallel to Monroe Street and directly across from Edgewood High School's entrance.

I am greatly concerned that the installation of lights and the expanded night time athletic schedule will be seriously detrimental to the quality of life, use and enjoyment of our property which we have become accustomed to for nearly 30 years. We do not understand how the lights and the noise created from the night time sporting events will not impair the quality of living in our neighborhood.

I am also concerned that Edgewood High School has not worked with our neighborhood association in good faith to find an acceptable compromise for the light and sound installations on its athletic field. The Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood Association has presented various methods to minimize the disruptive effects of Edgewood's proposal but these have been consistently set aside without engaging in meaningful discussions to reach a compromise.

Since it came before the Plan Commission, I am not aware of any recent activity Edgewood has conducted to measure and research the impact its current and proposed use of the athletic fields will have on the surrounding neighborhood. Such an assessment suggested by the Plan Commission when Edgewood's proposal was heard and denied earlier this summer. Thus, the neighborhood is left to accept on blind faith that Edgewood's request will not substantially impair or diminish the well established use, values and enjoyment of neighboring residents' property.

For these reasons I respectfully request that you vote NO on Edgewood's appeal.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns on this matter. Please have this letter uploaded to Legistar #60646 if it is not done so automatically.

Respectfully yours,

Claude Kazanski
2233 West Lawn Ave.
Madison, WI. 53711

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Edgewood appeal -- Legistar #60646
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:18:47 PM

From: Leopold, Madelyn <madelyn.leopold@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:17 PM
To: All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Edgewood appeal -- Legistar #60646

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To the Common Council:

I ask that the Common Council leave it to the parties to work out the issues between them relating to the expansion of Edgewood's athletic field facility. In other words, please uphold the Plan Commission's action and deny Edgewood High School's appeal.

When it denied Edgewood's request for a conditional use variance, the Plan Commission encouraged Edgewood to work out the issues with the neighborhood. Some movement has been achieved: according to a recent Wisconsin State Journal article, Edgewood has agreed not to rent out the field and has agreed to limit the number of games next year, but it still wants permission to use lights at 40 games per year starting in 2022.

By comparison, Camp Randall down the street typically hosts seven (7) football games per year.

Having failed to achieve a compromise acceptable to both Edgewood and the neighborhood, Edgewood now seeks through this appeal to override the Plan Commission and the neighborhood and cut off further discussion about lights and amplified sound.

Please deny Edgewood's appeal and make the parties go back to negotiating a solution acceptable to both.

I live in the neighborhood. I believe that a solution can be reached, but what's been achieved so far will without question substantially impair and diminish the uses, values and enjoyment of property in the neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration.

Madelyn Leopold
2233 West Lawn Ave.
Madison, WI 53711

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Edgewood, again... (file #60646, agenda item 4)
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:00:09 PM

From: Rudy Moore <twinotter@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Rummel, Marsha <district6@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Edgewood, again... (file #60646, agenda item 4)

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Hi Marsha,

I understand Edgewood is coming before the board to try to throw out the decision by the plan commission. I know you worked on the plan commission and appreciate all the work that was done there so far.

I hope you'll deny Edgewood's request. The best way they can make changes is through good-faith negotiations with the neighborhood. Please ask for them to do that and then to come to agreement with the neighborhood.

Thank you!
Rudy

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Edgewood stadium request
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:04:27 PM

From: Susan Paskewitz <anopheles202002@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 1:03 PM
To: Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>; Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Edgewood stadium request

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

To the City of Madison Common Council:

I am writing in strongest possible opposition on behalf of my family to the request by Edgewood College to install stadium lighting and amplified sound on the sports field for nighttime games. I am dismayed at the way they are trying to sneak in this request to overturn the Planning Council decision during this busy time of the year when many of the neighbors will have heard nothing and won't have time to respond yet again. What kind of organization behaves like this?

I am speaking here for myself and for my family, all long-term residents who live very close to the Edgewood campus.

My husband and I live at 830 Terry Place, which is just one street away from Woodrow Street (bordering the playing field). We have lived here through many changes to the Edgewood campus and have thought that, with alterations made based on neighbor input, the results have been largely positive. However, this time is different. We have followed the arguments for and against the changes that Edgewood has requested for the stadium. I am convinced that the resulting late night noise and light pollution on an unlimited number of nights each year will drive us out of our home and out of this neighborhood after 30 years of residency.

My family members own three properties that have contiguous yards (our home at 830 Terry Place, 826 Terry where my mother lives, and 2415 Monroe Street where my brother lives). We have been dedicated Dudgeon Monroe neighbors with my husband, Bill Barker, serving as president of the neighborhood association many years ago. We deliberately shop on Monroe Street to sustain our small businesses and donate regularly to the neighborhood association, the Arboretum, Madison Parks, Libraries, Troy Gardens, Forward Theater and other civic organizations. We really care about the quality of life in our city and our neighborhood not just for ourselves but for all of us.

Edgewood is requesting 25 nights of scheduled play with sound and light during the first year, with no limits on the number of nights with sound and light in succeeding years. These game nights are going to be compressed within a few months. Imagine if you knew that every Friday night for months, after a long week at work, you were going to have to listen to loud game sounds inside your home until late in the evening. If this request from Edgewood is approved, then we expect that our peaceful home and beloved gardens will be invaded by noise and light on far too many nights to tolerate. The leaders at Edgewood cannot be trusted to adhere to any restrictions, as they have already shown in allowing games on the field in spite of the agreement prohibiting them. The Dudgeon Monroe neighbors who form the

NoStadium group shared videos of a similar situation in Claremont California. Looking at those yards in California communities that abut sports fields allowed to erect similar lights and sound systems, it is very clear that the amount of noise is unbearable. Property values dropped and the neighbors are miserable. The same will happen in our neighborhood.

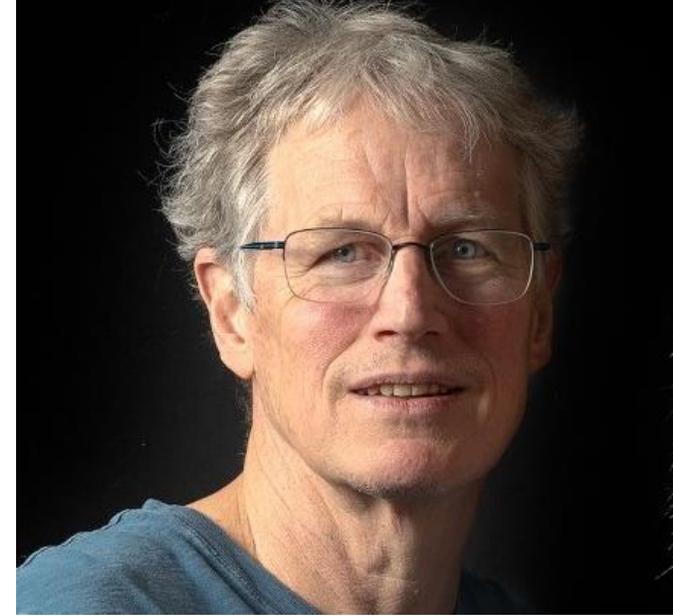
By contrast, the sole benefits are to a small group of the wealthiest citizens who can afford to send their children to private schools. These supporters do not live next door to the stadium and will not share any of the burden if this is approved. I hope that our community leaders will put the needs of the direct neighbors first and protect a vibrant and engaged part of our city.

Thank you for reading this letter.

Susan Paskewitz

Edwin Sibert

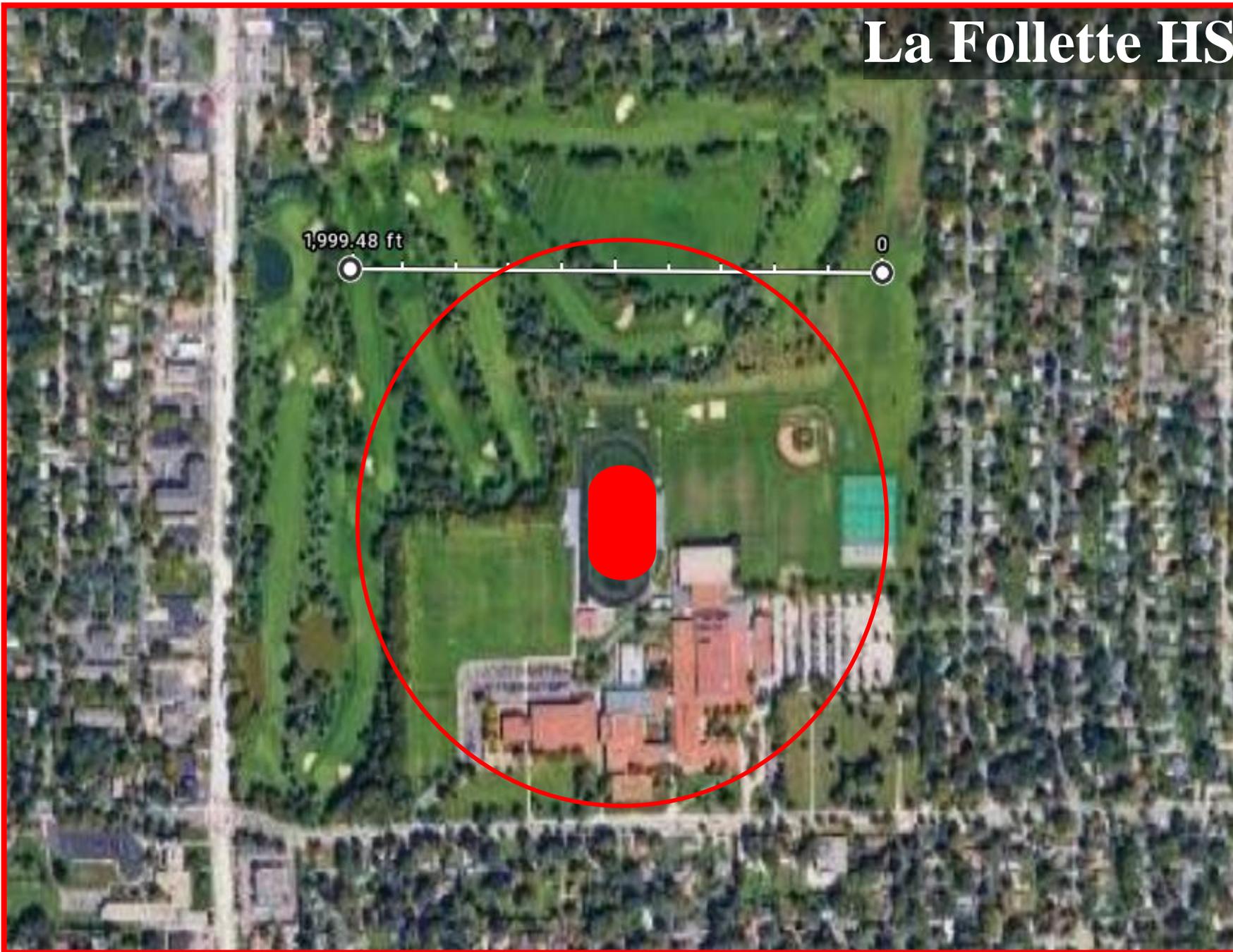
Resident: Dudgeon–Monroe (33 years)



Misleading High School Comparisons

La Follette, Memorial, Middleton, and Edgewood

La Follette HS



Circle has 1000
foot radius

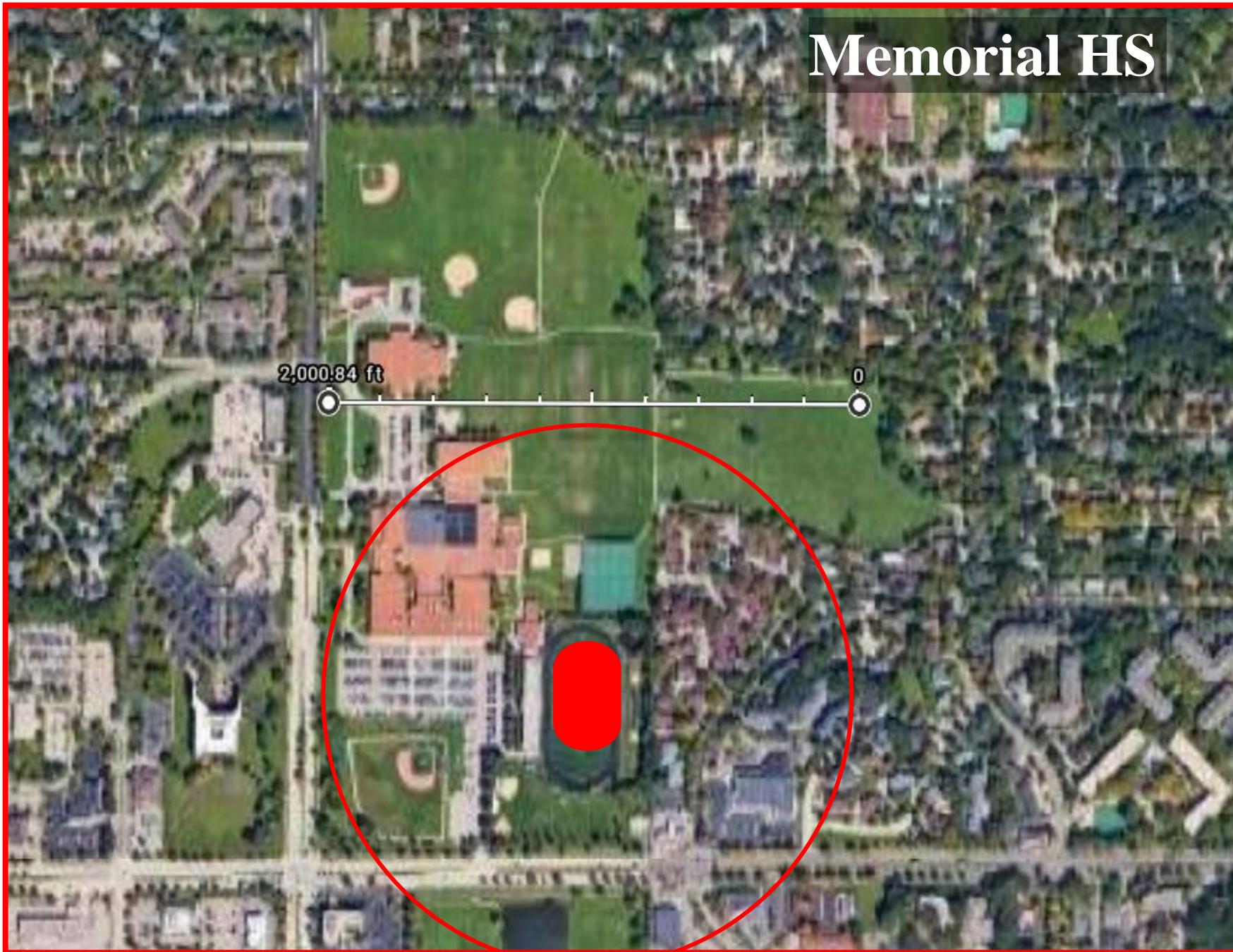
Memorial HS

137 feet from
edge of track to
nearest apartment

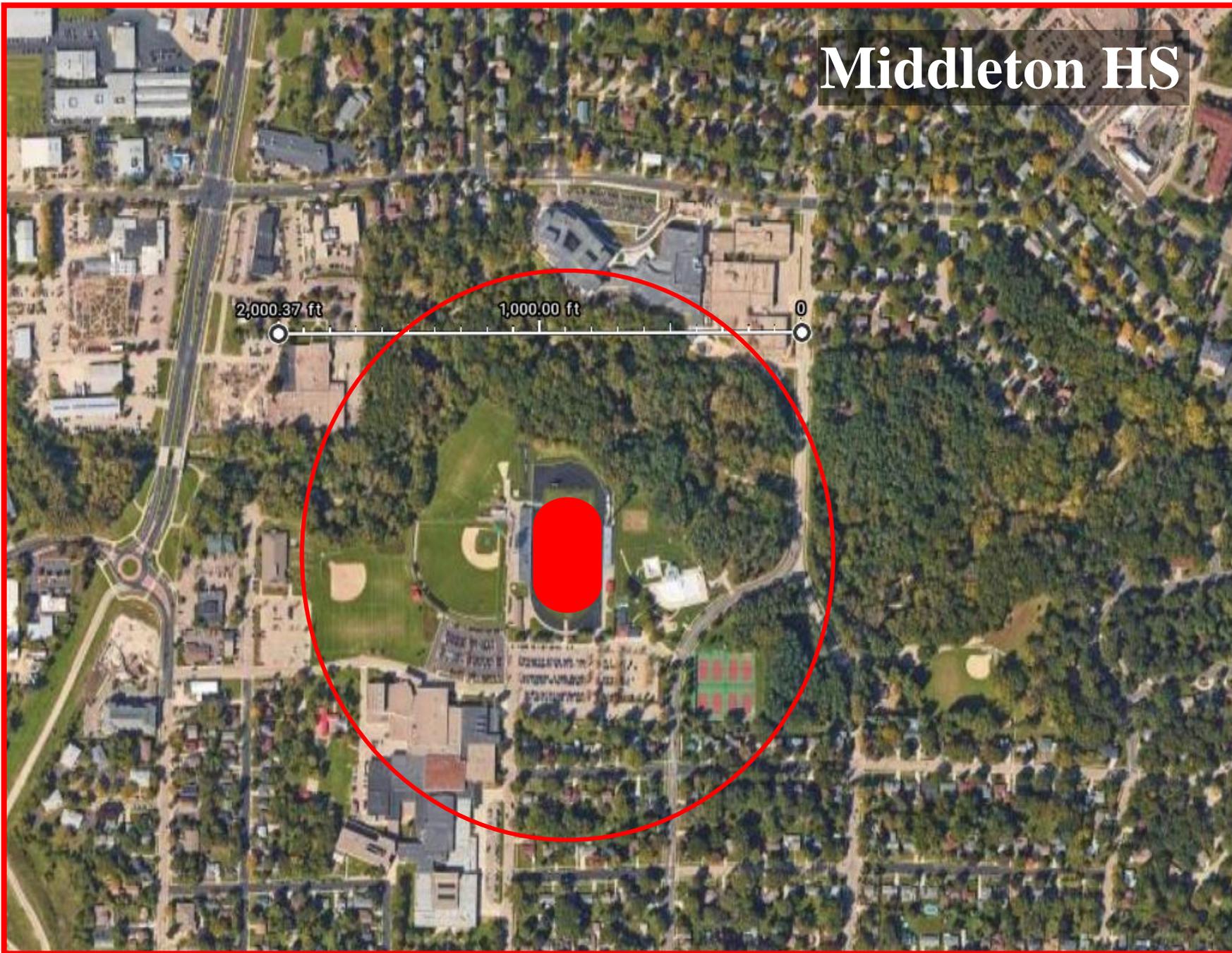
Construction Dates

HS	1966
Stadium	1967
Housing	1971

**Circle has 1000
foot radius**



Middleton HS



397 feet from
edge of track to
nearest house

Circle has 1000
foot radius

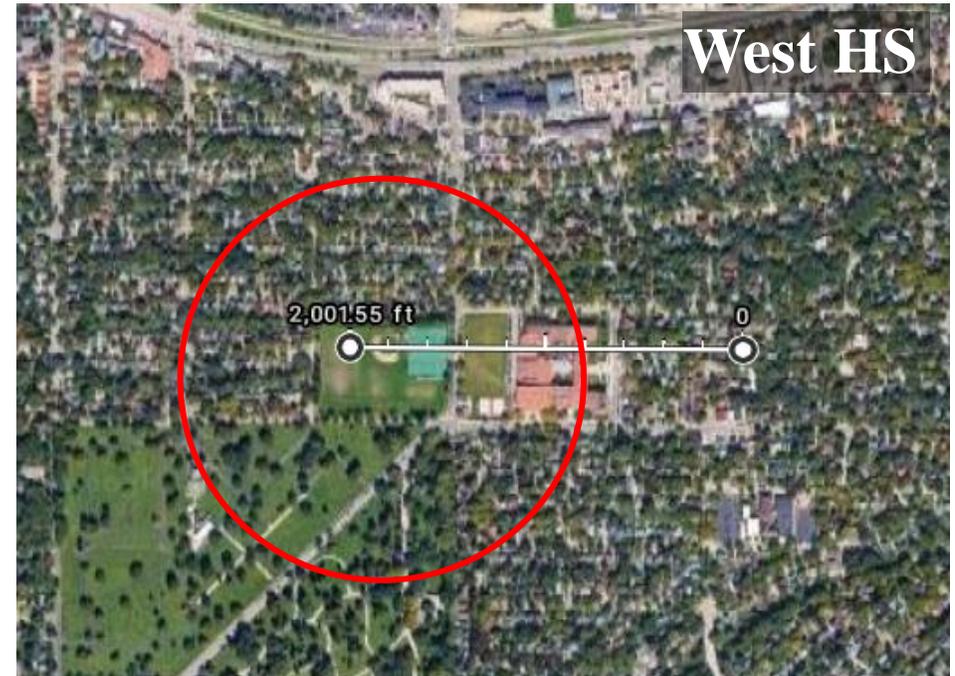
Edgewood HS



114 feet from
edge of track to
nearest house

**Circle has 1000
foot radius**

Maybe we should compare to West HS?



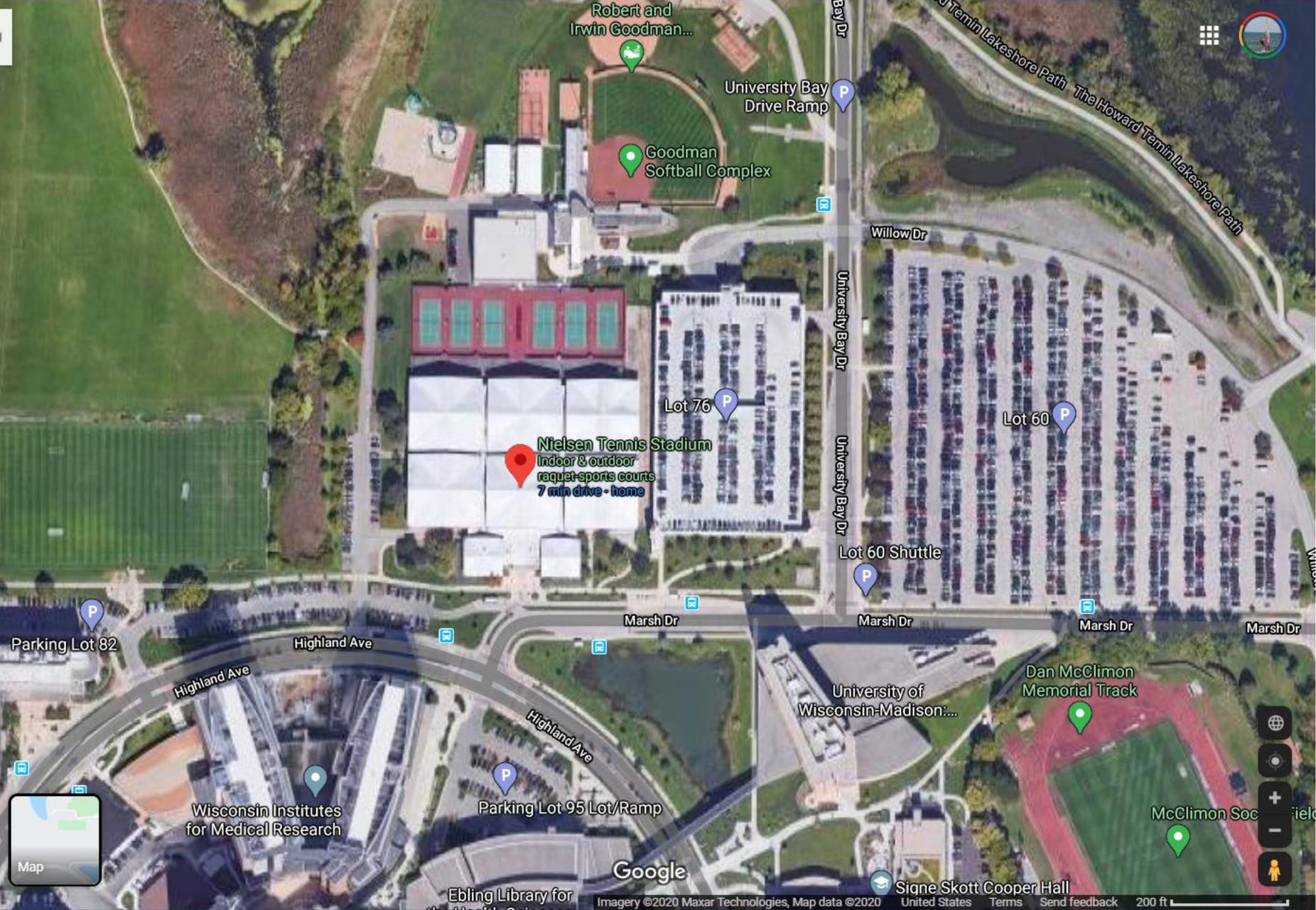
Lights – Noise

Additional Comparisons

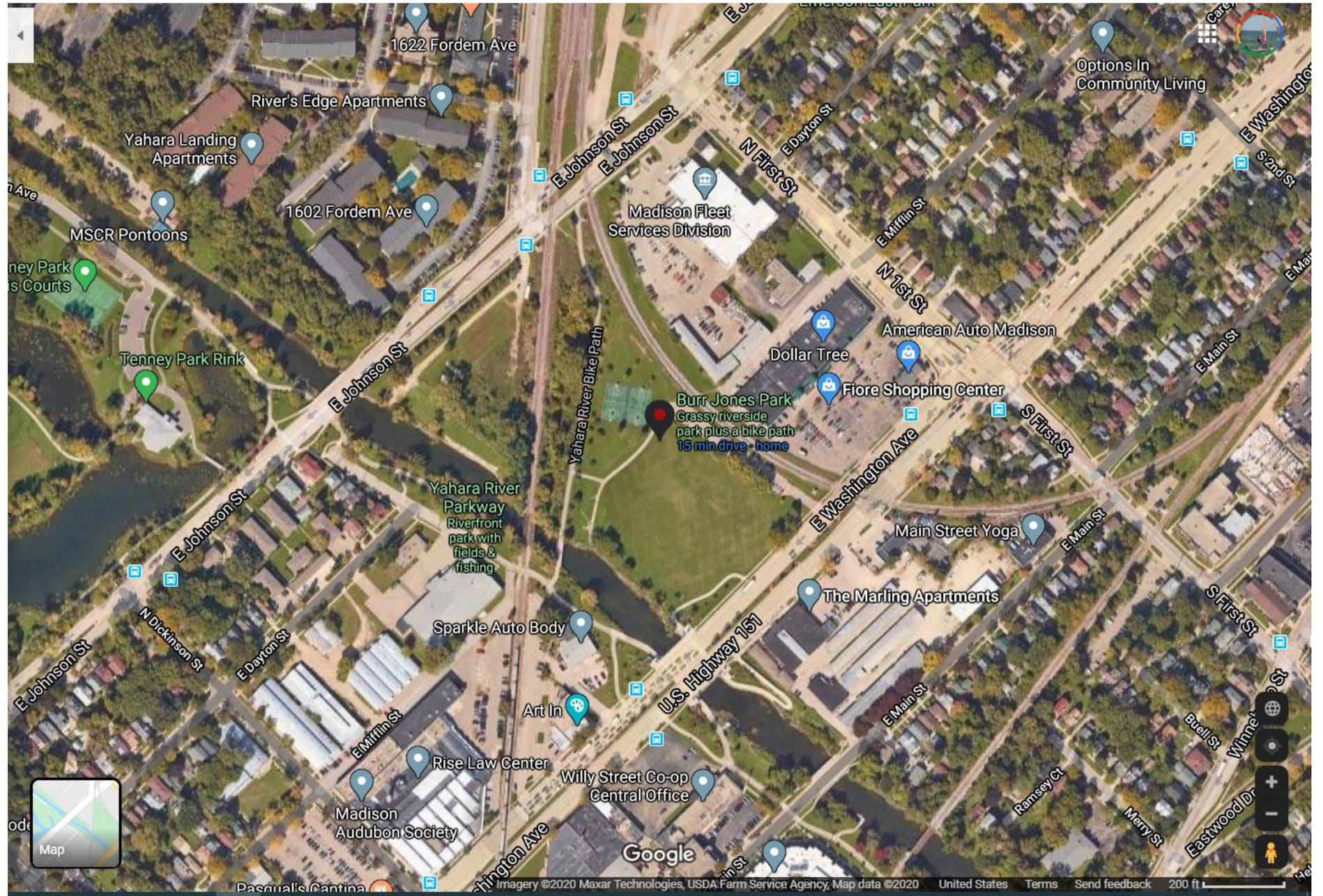
Following 4 pictures are on the same scale:

- UW Nielsen Tennis Stadium
- Burr Jones Park
- Bowman Park
- Edgewood HS

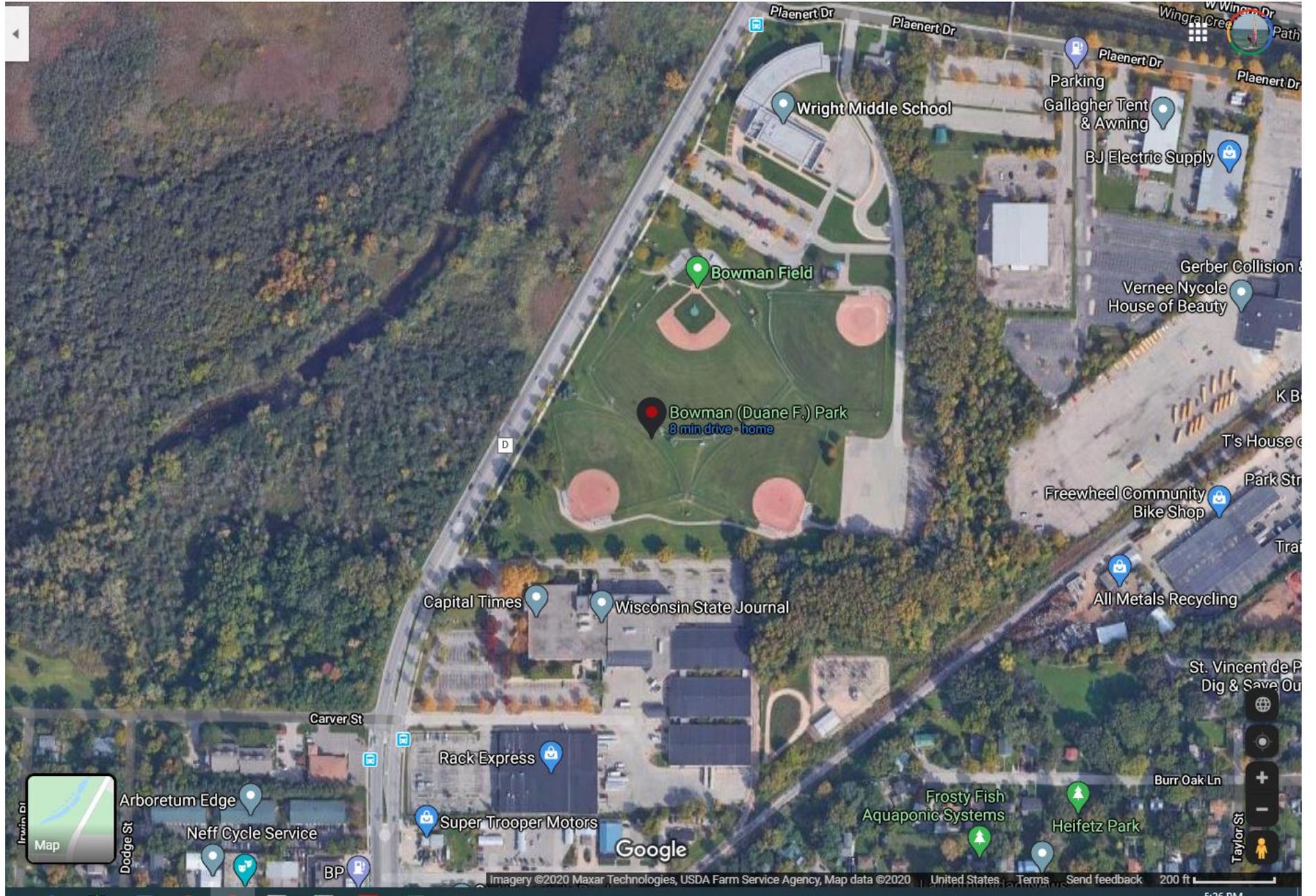
UW-Madison
Nielsen Tennis
Stadium



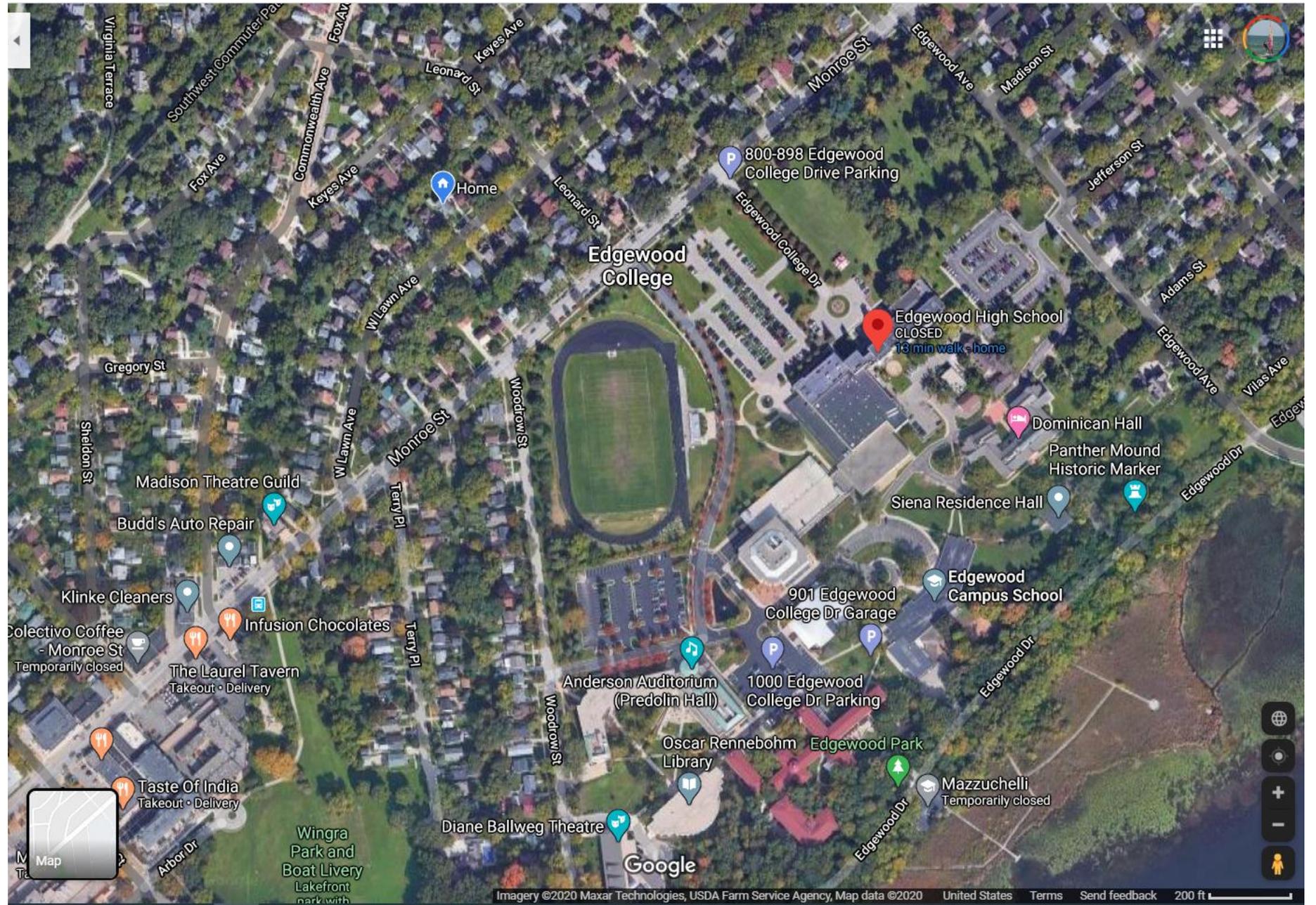
City of Madison Burr Jones Park



City of Madison Bowman Park



Edgewood HS



From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Opposition to Edgewood lights and accompanying neighborhood-disrupting sound
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 7:11:56 AM

From: MC Murphy <maryclarem@charter.net>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 9:35:02 PM
To: Mayor; All Alders; Stouder, Heather
Subject: Opposition to Edgewood lights and accompanying neighborhood-disrupting sound

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

With respect for the work that you are doing in these difficult times, I offer simple but enduring opposition to Edgewood High School's request for stadium lighting. Although I've followed this saga for years, right now my head spins with all of the ways in which this request has been spun by Mr. Mike Elliott and Edgewood's benefactors and other supporters. As an alum (1972), I have lost faith in the direction of Edgewood High School.

Edgewood's plan considers no one but the Edgewood community. Their burden cannot be borne by the close neighbors. It also should not be borne by neighbors like us, who live 2.5 blocks away but from inside our house can still make out the lyrics of a Billy Joel tune played on an electric piano out in front of Edgewood's Commons entrance on a quiet Sunday morning. As approximately 25 year residents in our home, we are very familiar with the way in which sound travels around here.

The stadium lighting and accompanying noise will be devastating for our Woodrow and Monroe Street neighbors.

Mary Clare Murphy
1910 Jefferson St.

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Please oppose Edgewood stadium light appeal 12/1
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 7:11:27 AM

From: Marty Starzewski <mistarzewski@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:33:00 PM
To: Evers, Tag
Cc: All Alders; Mayor; Stouder, Heather
Subject: Please oppose Edgewood stadium light appeal 12/1

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

To the Common Council,

I live directly across from Edgewood and am impacted directly by many of the activities that take place on their campus, so I have been closely following the events relating to their field. I can see the practice field from my living room and can hear the many sounds it generates while in use even with windows closed. My primary concerns since the start of this have been the noise and light generated particularly by night games, as well as the number of night games proposed and the late hours they would keep since I often work early hours at the hospital.

As you know, the Plan Commission appropriately denied Edgewood's application for stadium light installation earlier this year in part because they could not provide evidence that the lights would not negatively impact the surrounding properties, namely the homes that are in the vicinity. The neighborhood wants reassurance and *evidence* that the noise and light generated from night games would be of minimal impact on their ability to live in and enjoy their homes. Edgewood would have the ability to measure this with day games they can already host. It baffles me that they are instead appealing with a proposal for even more night games than originally proposed a few years ago when they haven't addressed the primary concern of noise and light.

I have been disappointed these past few years by their aggressive actions related to the field enhancements as well as their diminished consideration for the impacted families. I and many others in the neighborhood have not been opposed to Edgewood using the practice area for games within reason, but Edgewood has gone for an 'all or nothing' approach with their insistence on light/sound modifications, increase in stadium seating, number of games played, and times of day games were played. It continues to puzzle me that they are not trying to negotiate in good faith with their neighbors and rebuild trust that they've lost. I would like to think some sort of plan can be created once Edgewood honestly takes part in finding an equitable solution instead of just putting in an appearance. I realize that Edgewood might be seeing the field as a way to raise money but the reality is they chose a site that is uncomfortably close to people's homes, and there are consequences and responsibilities that stem from that decision.

Please oppose the Edgewood stadium light installation appeal.

Thank you,

Martha Starzewski
2238 Monroe St
Madison, WI 53711

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Woodrow St. resident opposed to Edgewood Appeal (Legistar #60646)
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 7:11:16 AM
Attachments: [M Gartler Letter for Legistar 60646.pdf](#)

From: Marc Gartler <mgartler@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:35:28 PM
To: Mayor; All Alders
Cc: Stouder, Heather; Parks, Timothy
Subject: Woodrow St. resident opposed to Edgewood Appeal (Legistar #60646)

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Dear Alders and Mayor,

I live on Woodrow Street, directly across from Edgewood's field. I request that the Council deny Edgewood's appeal. Attached please find my comments, which use text, images, and emails from City staff to clearly demonstrate four things:

1.
Why noise is relevant
2.
How Edgewood has proposed mitigating noise
3.
How the City treats noise from athletic fields
4.
Why the Plan Commission's decision was correct

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our community.

Marc Gartler
820 Woodrow St
Madison, WI 53711

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Opposing lights and noise at Edgewood
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 7:10:57 AM

From: D. Zen <zentnerdavid@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:51:33 PM
To: All Alders; Stouder, Heather; Evers, Tag
Subject: Opposing lights and noise at Edgewood

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

Hi, I'll make this short... I'm sure you've heard from a lot of neighbors. We live on Terry Place, a block from the Edgewood athletic field. Edgewood already uses their PA system too often and at too great a volume for a residential neighborhood.

I have attended all the meetings that have been held, and I'm appalled by the number of blatant lies by Edgewood officials. I'll just mention one: they've claimed that no other high school has to play their games away from the school. And they keep repeating that, knowing that the closest high school, West High, plays all their football games at the Madison Memorial stadium. The same is true for East High... and Edgewood College!

Of course the biggest lie is that they are trying to work with the neighborhood. They have ignored all the requests for noise abatement, and ignored the noise measurements and studies. They've started to build the infrastructure for a full-blown stadium with bright lights and a loud PA system, without revealing what they were doing.

Please do not overturn the good work of the Plan Commission, and their near-unanimous vote. Do not let Edgewood decrease the quality of life in the city of Madison.

Thank you!
Dave

David Zentner
849 Terry Place
Madison, WI 53711

ps: I request that this note be uploaded to Legistar #60646

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Please vote no on Edgewood Lights
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 7:10:06 AM

From: Aj Johnson <ajgardener3x7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 11:09:34 PM
To: Evers, Tag; All Alders; Stouder, Heather
Subject: Fwd: Please vote no on Edgewood Lights

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Aj Johnson** <ajgardener3x7@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, May 6, 2020 at 12:53 PM
Subject: Please vote no on Edgewood Lights
To: <allalders@cityofmadison.com>

I request that my letter be uploaded to Legistar #60646.

I am sending you a picture taken from my bedroom window of the Edgewood field. Our house is at the corner of Monroe St and Leonard is across from EHS field at about 45 degree angle.

In the middle of a pandemic that is threatening our state, country, and world, I am asking you to vote no on the Edgewood request for lights. One of the reasons I am asking you to vote no is because the lights, noise, and sound that go with this proposal not only pose a health threat to me and my family, but it threatens the well-being of our unique neighborhood too. In addition we are close to UW Arboretum that is home to wildlife and their health and well-being is threatened as well. I wonder if you can put yourself in my shoes and say that you would be fine to have lights and all that goes with it just across the street from you!

We concerned about the impacts on Lake Wingra and the surrounding wildlife community. Edgewood proposes using lights for a shifting number of night games, but practices are included for unlimited days. Recent studies have shown the negative impact of lights on migration and nesting of birds and also impacts on bats.

EHS continues to ignore the issue of noise and its disruptive impact on the neighboring properties and Lake Wingra.

The neighborhood association has offered specific and concrete steps toward a compromise, but EHS has not recognized these.

Alta and Tim Johnson
2264 Monroe St.
Madison, WI 53711

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.
Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.



From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Oppose Edgewood appeal
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 7:10:38 AM

From: Janet Zentner <janetzentner@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:55:32 PM
To: Evers, Tag
Cc: Stouder, Heather; All Alders; Mayor
Subject: Oppose Edgewood appeal

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

Dear Mr. Evers,

Once again, I am writing to voice my opposition to the appeal of Edgewood High School to install lights and amplified sound to their practice field. Edgewood's plan to install lights and amplified sound to be able to host night games will directly impair my ability to use and enjoy my property. I live very close to the Edgewood field. I have been disturbed by events Edgewood High School has hosted in the past. The thought of having an ever increasing number of night games that I will experience in my home and yard makes me shudder. I firmly believe the value of my property will decrease if Edgewood is allowed to host nighttime sporting events.

Please support the Plan Commission's wise denial of Edgewood High School's application for a conditional use permit. Adding lights and amplified sound in this location, so very close to many single family homes, would be a mistake.

Please upload this letter to Legistar #60646.

Thank you.
Janet Zentner
849 Terry Place
Madison, WI 53711
(one block away from the field)

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: We beg you to Uphold the Plan Commission's decision, Vote NO on Edgewood's lighting application #60646
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 7:09:29 AM

From: Katie Drucker <katie@mrsdrucker.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 11:24:56 PM
To: All Alders
Cc: Stouder, Heather
Subject: We beg you to Uphold the Plan Commission's decision, Vote NO on Edgewood's lighting application #60646

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

To the Common Council,

We have lived on Pickford Street for over 20 years and we are exhausted by Edgewood's continuous attacks on the peace and quiet of our neighborhood. The uses, values and enjoyment of our residence at 648 Pickford Street in Madison will be substantially impaired and diminished by the bright lights, loud noise and traffic that accompany competitive night games.

We have many, very special friends who send their kids to Edgewood and are in support of this stadium. I sincerely wish they would be more considerate of those of us who actually live in the neighborhood, very few of them do. Very few of them would have their home life affected by this proposed stadium as we would. They will be able to come to our neighborhood, disrupt and degrade our quality of life with inescapable whistles, screaming, cheering, announcements...and then go back to their big, quiet homes in the outlying areas. It is absolutely heartbreaking to us that they continue to fight for this stadium which would have such a negative impact on our lives. We love high school sports, we are 100% in support of having kids play. Our kids attended West HS and traveled to other high schools when West's sporting facilities were not adequate. West students will continue to have to do this. To build a stadium in an old, well established, peaceful neighborhood is just **wrong, unethical, and cruel** to those who live there and oppose it. I wish Edgewood could have empathy and realize how distressing their proposal is to so many of us who live in the neighborhood.

Edgewood is already permitted to play unlimited day games. Unlimited night games would be disruptive to the entire community and destructive to the environment.

Please, please, please I ask you again to uphold the Plan Commission's decision and vote NO on Edgewood's application for stadium lights.

Thank you for your service to our community in these very difficult times,

Katharine & Sean Drucker
648 Pickford Street
Madison, WI 53711
608-320-1119

Please upload my letter to Legistar #60646

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: December 1, 2020 Common Council Meeting, Agenda Item #4, Edgewood High School
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 8:37:48 PM

From: James Schey <jamesjschey@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 8:26 PM
To: Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>; Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: December 1, 2020 Common Council Meeting, Agenda Item #4, Edgewood High School

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

Dear Alder Evers,

I'm respectfully requesting that you, your fellow alders and Mayor Rhodes-Conway deny Edgewood High School's request to overturn the Plan Commission's action. I am a neighbor of Edgewood's and a 35 year resident of 878 Woodrow Street.

The Plan Commission's decision rejecting their proposal to add stadium lighting and amplified sound to their football field was supported by detailed fact finding and balanced reasoning. The addition of high mast lighting and amplified sound were proven through engineering measurements and analysis to cause substantial impairment of the uses, values and enjoyment of the surrounding properties by both the residents of the neighborhood and those using nearby public spaces including Wingra Park and the Park and Pleasure Drive.

As you know this is a dense urban setting where homes are extremely close to the football field with no light or sound barriers in between.

Their proposal includes no sound limits. Multiple sound consultants demonstrated that sound levels would be excessive and widespread. For the nearby homes, it's been demonstrated that normal conversation with windows closed would not be possible during events.

Imagine if you were living in an established neighborhood, your neighbor installs an outdoor amplified sound system with lighting and proceeds to hold night time events disrupting your ability to converse within your home, put young children to bed or simply enjoy being in your residence or around your neighborhood.

And please don't be misled by Edgewood High School's claims of compromise or negotiation with the neighbors. There has been none. The plan before you is substantially the same one that has been proposed for the past two years. What has

changed is an increase in proposed use from 18-27 night games/8 day games in 2017 to 25 regular season night games, an unspecified number of post season night games, unlimited lighted night practices and unlimited day games.

I appreciate your support of the greater neighborhood in rejecting this request.

Sincerely,
James Schey
878 Woodrow Street
Madison, WI 53711
jamesjschey@yahoo.com

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to Edgewood's Lighting Proposal
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 8:16:32 PM

From: Jacob Notbohm <jnotbohm@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 8:15 PM
To: All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>; Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Opposition to Edgewood's Lighting Proposal

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

To the Common Council Members,

We live within a 100 ft radius of the Edgewood football field. We are strongly opposed to agenda item number 60646, the appeal to add lights to the Edgewood athletic field.

We have a young child who is 2 years old. Our child naps every afternoon and goes to bed at 7 pm each evening. The lighting and noise associated with Edgewood's proposal would interrupt his sleep. The importance of sleep for young children is well documented, with lack of sleep affecting his daily schedule, behavior, attention, and learning. Simply put, Edgewood's proposal would have a dramatic adverse impact on our family.

Edgewood suggests that their plans for lighting are designed to minimize impact on the neighborhood, but their plans consistently ignore the crowd noise associated with their sporting events. In past events, the noise of the cheering crowds for soccer and lacrosse has filled our house--the noise is disruptive when the windows are open or closed. One contributor to the volume of crowd noise that we hear in our home is the unique topography of the Edgewood campus, which has a hill behind the athletic field that acts as a natural amplifier, projecting sound in the direction of Edgewood's neighbors. The noise of traffic on Monroe Street is mild compared to the crowd noise coming from sporting events at Edgewood's field. So far, most crowds for Edgewood sporting events have been small--less than 100 people. The larger crowds of bigger night games would be far louder and far more disruptive.

We purchased our home on Monroe Street in October 2015. In June of 2015, Edgewood renovated their athletic field. Edgewood President Mike Elliot said in a quote to the Wisconsin State Journal, "We're between two neighborhood associations. They have been vehemently opposed to us having lights or playing games here. We're really building this to be able to give our athletes the practice facilities that provide the best surfaces possible and to expand the amount of outdoor practices we can hold especially in the spring." (Wisconsin State Journal, June 15, 2015) This quote was a factor in purchasing our home, as it suggests that Edgewood recognized and respected the opinions of the neighborhood.

In contrast to his statement to the Wisconsin State Journal, Mr. Elliot now claims that it has always been Edgewood's goal to play football games and host other nighttime athletic events on their field. It is now clear to us that Edgewood intended to add lights and, eventually, a sound system to its athletic field this whole time. Their piecemeal approach is obviously designed to circumvent engagement with the neighborhood association.

One of Edgewood's main arguments for why they should have a field is that they should be treated fairly and equally to other Madison high schools. On this point, we agree--the nearest public high school, West High School, plays football and other night games at an off-campus field. East High School does too. A second argument made by Edgewood is that their current proposal represents a compromise with the neighborhood. But the number of night games proposed is essentially the same as their original proposal. The ending times of those games remain the same as their original proposal. And Edgewood continues to ignore the issue of crowd noise caused by their athletic events. It is clear that the notion that Edgewood deserves to play its games on its campus is not based on fair or equal treatment but rather on a preference. Edgewood's preference does not outweigh the strong reduction on the quality of life of its neighbors.

For these reasons, we are opposed to Edgewood's plan to add lights to its athletic field. **We ask that you reject their appeal on the basis that our use and enjoyment of our property will be substantially impaired and diminished.**

Sincerely,

Jacob Notbohm
Nicole Broekema
Homeowners and Madison Residents
2314 Monroe St, Madison, WI

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Madison Common Council 12/1 Meeting
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 8:05:42 PM

From: peggy nolan <5nolans@att.net>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 7:41:43 PM
To: Evers, Tag
Cc: Stouder, Heather; All Alders
Subject: Madison Common Council 12/1 Meeting

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Good evening,

We are contacting you to express our support for the appeal of conditional use request for 2219 Monroe Street, agenda item #4, File #60646.

We have owned our home on Terry Place for 24 years and are about a half block from the Goodman Athletic Complex. The amount of noise from the soccer and lacrosse games there is minimal. The crowds for those events are very small and cheering is not loud.

The only proposed event that would have the combination of lights, sounds and crowds would be football. For the 4-6 football games a year we could deal with that as it would not be much worse than some of the other things going on in a vibrant neighborhood in the middle of the city.

We have one child at West High School and wish they had the same opportunity to have athletics facilities next to their school and not across town. Please realize the vast majority of the events at the Goodman Athletic Complex are not football games.

We ask that this letter be uploaded to Legistar #60646.

Thank you for all you do on behalf of our city and the student athletes at all of our schools.

Peg and Rich Nolan
829 Terry Pl.
Madison

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Edgewood stadium proposal
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 6:37:40 PM

From: james macdonald <fschmert@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 6:27:49 PM
To: Evers, Tag
Cc: All Alders; Mayor; Stouder, Heather
Subject: Edgewood stadium proposal

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Tag Evers – District 13

Dear Alder Evers -

As a resident of the Vilas neighborhood for more than 70 years, and as a former member of the Madison Park Commission, I strongly oppose Edgewood school's proposal to build a football stadium. The building of this stadium at Edgewood school has been strongly and repeatedly rejected by the surrounding neighborhoods and by the Madison Plan Commission.

It has been rejected because the negative impacts on our neighborhood and on Vilas Park will be large. There will be obvious traffic and parking problems. The bright athletic field lighting located atop 80 foot poles would spill out into the neighborhood. Importantly, the noise from the athletic public address system will also boom through the neighborhood. In their current proposal Edgewood does not state any specific volume limits to this noise.

They also propose that there will be no limits on how often the stadium will be used. They do say that initially it will be used for up to 25 season night games. This desire for a limit of 25 season games is surprising. During the last decade the Edgewood Crusaders have generally played a total of only nine games per year. Occasionally, they have played as many as eleven but in no year has the number of games ever approached 25. Perhaps the rumor that Edgewood plans to rent the stadium to other schools explains their 25 season game limit. They say it will also be used for an "unspecified" number of postseason night games, and an unlimited number of night time practices, and unlimited day games. In short, they will use the stadium whenever and as often as they like. This stadium will not be a limited and occasional neighborhood problem. It will be a constant unremitting noisy commotion.

As a previous Madison park commissioner I worry about the effects of this stadium on the nearby city parks. Vilas Park is a short 1500 feet from the site of the proposed stadium and Wingra Park is only 1000 feet away. The noise, and in the evening the lights, from the proposed stadium will transform these parks. What is now a calming stroll across the grass at Vilas will be transformed by the jarring noise of football announcements. The peace and serenity of a kayak or canoe trip on Lake Wingra will be destroyed as athletic announcements boom across the water. By jeopardizing these parks, used and loved by all of Madison, the negative effects of the proposed stadium will reach far beyond the local neighborhood.

For all these many reasons I ask you to reject the football stadium plan proposed by Edgewood School.

Betty MacDonald

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Please vote NO on Edgewood Stadium Proposal
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 6:37:24 PM

From: Patty Haeger <pattyhaeger@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 6:33:28 PM
To: All Alders; Mayor; Evers, Tag; Stouder, Heather
Subject: Please vote NO on Edgewood Stadium Proposal

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Hi Everyone,

I am writing yet again to add my voice to the chorus of my neighbors in opposition to Edgewood High School attempt to appeal the Plan Commission's vote regarding their Stadium Proposal.

Thank you,
Patty Haeger

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Gardening neighbor opposed to Edgewood Appeal (Legistar #60646)
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 6:13:08 PM

From: Christine Gartler <christinegartler@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 6:11:52 PM
To: All Alders
Cc: Stouder, Heather
Subject: Gardening neighbor opposed to Edgewood Appeal (Legistar #60646)

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

Dear Alders,

I live at 820 Woodrow St., directly across the street from Edgewood High School's athletic field, and am writing to ask that you deny Edgewood's appeal. Please upload this to Legistar #60646.

Except for during the pandemic, in the past four years neighbors like me have endured more and more noise from Edgewood's field. Every event is another couple hours or more of time that gardening is not relaxing. Sometimes it is quite agitating.

And Edgewood's noise doesn't stop at our garden. It goes through our windows, even when closed, into my office on the second floor, and into our living room on the first floor. My escape is closing my windows, cranking up the white noise machine I use when seeing clients, and moving to the rear of the house.

Since Edgewood apparently threatened their way out of their Master Plan a couple months ago, there's no limit to what they're allowed to do.

But there is currently still a limit to *when* they're able to do it. They can't use the field for a few extra hours because darkness descends. It is then that the neighborhood becomes peaceful. It is then that we open our windows again.

They do not still have some **right** to more of my time, more of my peace, or more of my life. They are getting enough. I do understand that Edgewood has property rights. But so do I. Where's the balance?

We are neighboring property owners, and should be treated fairly as such. Please uphold the Plan Commission's decision.

Thank you,

Christine Gartler
820 Woodrow St.

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Oppose Edgewood's CU Permit
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 5:37:33 PM

From: Joan Nugent <jfnuge@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:26:04 PM
To: Stouder, Heather
Subject: Fwd: Oppose Edgewood's CU Permit

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

(Please have this letter uploaded to Legistar # 60646)

As a resident in the Vilas Neighborhood for 40 years, I strongly oppose the Edgewood High School request for a Conditional Use Permit to install 80 foot lights on their athletic field.

Edgewood's new proposal does not contain any significant change except for the potential to increase night games.

It is clear that EHS is planning to generate income by renting out their field to other athletic clubs and schools.

They are not interested in just providing a playing field for their students.

The current proposal does not meet the conditional use standard, which is why the Plan Commission turned it down.

Installation of lights at Edgewood's Stadium clearly does not meet the CU standard

that " **The uses, values and enjoyment of other property already established will not be substantially impaired or diminished in any foreseeable manner.**"

The neighborhood's homes, residents, Lake Wingra Watershed, environment, darkness, and adjoining parks would all be adversely impacted by the lights, sound system, crowds, noise and traffic of night games.

With very few exceptions, the people who support this development will **not be affected** because they do not live near Edgewood.

Please support the integrity of neighborhoods, quiet evenings, the protection of wildlife and the quiet green spaces that surround Lake Wingra.

Please vote NO.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joan Nugent
1521 Vilas Ave.

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Agenda item 4 - Oppose lights at Edgewood HS
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 5:37:16 PM

From: William Brumsickle <brumsickle@charter.net>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:18:26 PM
To: All Alders
Cc: Stouder, Heather; Mayor
Subject: Agenda item 4 - Oppose lights at Edgewood HS

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To the Alder Evers and the Common Council,

I urge you to reject the request from Edgewood High School to install athletic field lighting: do not overrule the Planning Commission decision.

We own a home on the corner of Edgewood Ave. and West Lawn Ave, 900 feet from the EHS athletic field. I am greatly concerned that the proposed "improvements" will significantly reduce both our property value and the enjoyment of our property and quiet residential neighborhood.

Among our concerns and reasons to reject this particular proposal are:

- lack of independent assessment of lighting impact on neighborhood and Lake Wingra and Wingra Park wildlife, including reflected glare.
- lack of consideration of crowd noise and amplified sound during evening hours.
- no limit on number of games or events in evening hours; Edgewood has not shown that it can be trusted without specific limits and enforcement means.
- Edgewood HS chose to end its agreement with Middleton High School. Edgewood's claim to now lack a game site is specious.
- Edgewood HS has not negotiated in good faith with the neighborhoods so nearby and adjacent to the proposed stadium site.

With appropriate design and evaluation, a wholly different proposal to limit lighted field use to only practice sessions, without sound amplification, may be acceptable. There is no legitimate need for night games at this site. West High School is much larger and provides plenty of athletic opportunities for its students without a game facility next door.

Sincerely,

William Brumsickle
2202 West Lawn Ave.
Madison, WI 53711

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Edgewood Stadium proposal - oppose
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 5:34:21 PM

From: Jan O'Neill <jano1855@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:52:47 PM
To: Evers, Tag
Cc: All Alders; Mayor; Stouder, Heather
Subject: Edgewood Stadium proposal - oppose

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Tag,

I am writing in strong opposition to Edgewood's "new" proposal. Far from a "compromise," it was never developed with neighborhood input, and includes not only night games/lights and unlimited practices up to 7 pm, but does not designate a limit on games in 2022-2023 and beyond. We've already made our case to the Planning Commission which decided 7-1 in our favor after hearing hours of testimony. If the Council overrules the Commission, what trust can we place in our leaders?

Thank you for supporting the neighborhood's concerns.

Best,

Jan O'Neill

--

When things are shaky and nothing is working, we might realize that we are on the verge of something. -- Pema Chodron

Jan O'Neill
608.698.1855 (cell)

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: EHS Stadium NOT meet conditional use standards/ PLEASE support Madison urban Neighborhoods #60646
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:05:54 PM

From: Eileen Hornberger Thompson <eileenlittleredt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 3:16:43 PM
To: Stouder, Heather
Subject: Fwd: EHS Stadium NOT meet conditional use standards/ PLEASE support Madison urban Neighborhoods #60646

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

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Eileen Hornberger Thompson <eileenlittleredt@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 30, 2020 at 3:14 PM
Subject: EHS Stadium NOT meet conditional use standards/ PLEASE support Madison urban Neighborhoods #60646
To: <allalders@cityofmadison.com>, Tag Evers <district13@cityofmadison.com>, <heatherstouder@cityofmadison.com>

Edgewood High School does **NOT** meet conditional use standards.

1. **Please support the Neighborhood Residents** from the many long-term implications and effects - Lights, noise, neighborhood impingement of parties - trash, yelling, nighttime raucous, urinating -where the few make problems in surrounding neighborhoods. **Do you want these surrounding houses as homes owned by families or as rental houses?**
2. The **lights will brighten** every nearby neighbors **interior rooms** and exterior house in the nearby blocks. The eventual sound will extend into my area of Vilas neighborhood (next to Bear Mound Park).
3. There will be **more problems** in the neighborhoods like what occurs on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturday nights from Edgewood College students - **raucous** everywhere?

My children, who have attended West High School graduating in 2015 and 2019, have informed me:

“Mom – just because students attend a Religious affiliated high school doesn’t mean they don’t drink, smoke, and take drugs” “ At football games , the students from Edgewood party as much and maybe more than public school students, whether the game is at night

or mid-day”

4. You may think Edgewood High school is just adding lights. However, Edgewood High school is going to develop this track and field into a **full- blown stadium**. The High School and Catholic diocese will schedule use as much as possible to **make more money**. They are hurting for enrollment and hence of funding to make money.

5. **This** will set the stage **set precedence for a stadium in the Regent neighborhood**. Madison West Athletic Booster Association has **plans to build a track** and eventual full stadium complex.

6. Again - Do you want these **surrounding neighborhood houses as homes owned by families or rental houses?**

7. I live **five blocks** from University of Wisconsin Camp Randall. I **previously had families as neighbors who owned their house**. In the **27 years** of home ownership in Vilas neighborhood, more and more **houses are being purchased and converted to rental** properties and rented by students or student families. I now have two rental properties next to me, and several more nearby around the block. One neighbor owner also uses the house as an **AirBnB**.

What is the big deal about Rentals? These are not neighbors. The students and temporary renters do not seem to respect this is a neighborhood everyday of the week. The Weekend parties on front lawns have increased particularly on weekdays and weekends whether there is a football game in Camp Randall or not. As more activities have occurred at Camp Randall – so has stadium traffic and daytime and nighttime noise. I do not want this to get worse at the other side just half mile away creates more sound and traffic on a daily basis. I want my neighborhood to remain a neighborhood.

I enjoy the quietness of the evenings weekdays and weekends when it happens – I can't imagine having another stadium create havoc. I want other families to call this their neighborhood and raise their children here.

Eileen Hornberger Thompson / Vilas NA member and Vilas NA Bear Mound park representative

311 Campbell Street, Madison

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Uphold the Plan Commission's decision, Vote NO on Edgewood's lighting application #60646
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:05:38 PM

From: Liz Lusk <lizlusk51@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 3:25:46 PM
To: All Alders
Cc: Stouder, Heather
Subject: Uphold the Plan Commission's decision, Vote NO on Edgewood's lighting application #60646

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

To the Common Council,

The uses, values and enjoyment of my residence and actually all the residences in Madison will be substantially impaired and diminished by the bright lights, loud noise and traffic that accompany competitive night games. Edgewood is already permitted to play unlimited day games. Unlimited night games would be disruptive to the entire community and destructive to the environment.

I live in the Regent Neighborhood and have lived in the larger area surrounding Edgewood, first on Terry Place, then on West Lawn and now on Virginia Terrace for the past 40 years. I write to oppose this for all the reasons that Alder Tag notes in his letter to the neighborhood. But I would also add that this particular area is very important to Madison as a whole.

This bit of Edgewood land extends the natural setting of the Vilas, Wingra and Arboretum circumference of Lake Wingra. Wingra is a no wake lake. The Arboretum has no through traffic (allowed on Sundays) and just behind Edgewood is the Park and Pleasure Drive, which is actually a linear park. Right now Vilas Park is looking to extend it's closure to cars in it's new plan. All of this to say, that yes, this neighborhood is important, but this particular bit of Madison is an environmental gem. To have it degraded by adding a full lighted and amplified day and night stadium would be an irretrievable loss. Our ancestors in Madison set this place aside for the enjoyment of the natural world. Let's keep it that way.

Please uphold the Plan Commission's decision and vote NO on Edgewood's application for stadium lights.

Thank you,
Sincerely
Liz Lusk
452 Virginia Terrace
Regent Neighborhood

Please upload my letter to Legistar #60646

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Edgewood HS Stadium--Opposition
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:05:16 PM

From: Kay Cashman Cahill <kcahill83@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:01:46 PM
To: Evers, Tag; All Alders; Mayor; Stouder, Heather
Subject: Edgewood HS Stadium--Opposition

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

To the Alders and the Mayor of Madison:

Edgewood HS's attempt to ram a private stadium through in spite of multiple well-considered refusals is the zombie proposal that can seemingly never die. Once again we must ask our representatives and those we trust with the wellbeing of our city neighborhoods to preserve us from this damaging, unnecessary plan.

I am writing to you as I have written before, because this proposal--which in spite of Edgewood's pretense that they are bringing a "compromise" in fact now calls for even fewer limitations on their lights, noise, and number of events than the earlier versions--is not only wrong for our city, it flies in the face of the collaborative processes Edgewood itself invited its neighbors to engage in as it created a long-range plan over a period of years.

It is impossible to avoid the mental comparison to Pres. Trump, refusing to accept the results of the election process and searching over and over for a judge who will be partisan enough to overturn it all. Please do not allow Edgewood HS to find a way to do an end run around the planning process and all the good faith effort that has gone into it. Do not be that judge.

I am a longtime resident of the neighborhood, having lived for 12 years on West Lawn Ave. a short block from the site and now 15 years on Jefferson St., across Edgewood Ave from the high school building. We have raised 5 kids here who all attended West, and are privileged to have been involved as community volunteers in various ways, including recently Democracy in the Park on the shores of Lake Wingra. This proposal affects a neighborhood I love and have long been committed to supporting. I object to this as unnecessary, polluting, threatening to a protected natural environment, and finally as a complete failure of processes the city should uphold.

First, it is not necessary. The football team has been playing and has a place to play. Their parents would evidently like for them to play closer to the school and have lots of money to put behind that, but it's not necessary for their children. West High less than a mile away, serving 2000+ diverse students from south and west Madison, has no football stadium, nor does Madison's East High. A stadium at Edgewood HS is not "infill development" because it is not going to concentrate activity where the users already live. Edgewood students and fans will be commuting by car as they do daily, many from communities outside Madison. It is going to disrupt the interface with one of the most highly valued natural areas in urban Madison by bringing traffic, noise, and light pollution from elsewhere.

I am distraught at the lights and loudspeakers associated with this stadium plan. These will be unthinkable disruptive to daily peace and enjoyment of our neighborhood. We are all familiar with the sounds of loudspeakers from Camp Randall, which is farther away. For most of us, this will be much closer, and instead of a few football Saturdays a year there will be scores of events. Additionally, any expensive facility like this will be rented out for revenue, so when there are no games we can expect tournaments and runs and other events--what about concerts?--all involving blasting speakers. There is no structure between my home and my neighbors' homes on the east edge of the Edgewood campus and this stadium: we will hear everything.

In the past, Edgewood has hosted occasional tailgate events for its alumni and some charity events on its greenspace on weekend mornings, with blasting music to energize the crowd. Naturally, we didn't complain because these were rare and were for charity--but rousing music on weekends before 8 a.m. is not welcome. An expensive stadium that will host these events repeatedly will change the character of our livable city neighborhood forever.

Add lights and traffic to that noise, and I am afraid of the damage that will be done to the natural environment of this precious area. This site is on the edge of Lake Wingra and the UW Arboretum. These are not only beloved natural areas, they are fragile and preserve habitat which the suburban expansion of Madison has put at risk. Madison's 20th century planners made extraordinary efforts to preserve this interface between city and nature both for the plants and animals and for Madison's human residents. The Park and Pleasure Drive was created for this purpose and preserved from traffic flow to protect the area and provide access for people to nature. These areas are used and enjoyed daily by humans who find restoration in the natural world rather than a football game. But wild creatures do not remain when human encroachment of this kind is increased.

During this difficult time of isolation Madison has needed this area more than ever. Walking, running, boating or resting in the arboretum and along Lake Wingra is the daily activity of hundreds, so much that the city has closed a street to facilitate that. But we will throw it all away if we let development damage the fragile balance. I read with fear this article in December about how our continent has lost billions of birds, and we don't even notice because our short memories give us "shifting baseline syndrome." If this stadium is built with its environmental impacts on the edge of Lake Wingra, I fear I will have to tell my grandchildren in 15 years that we used to see loons on the lake on their migration north in the spring, and we used to hear owls on evening walks through the neighborhood. They will never see and hear these things on the near west side of Madison for themselves because Edgewood High School wanted a lighted stadium with loudspeakers.

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2226898-young-people-cant-remember-how-much-more-wildlife-there-used-to-be/>

Edgewood's choice to seek a permit by bypassing the processes it created itself promises consistent disregard for the community in which the school stands. Edgewood itself created a Liaison Committee that included representatives from both neighboring Neighborhood Associations and stakeholders from all its resident institutions. I served on that committee for several years and was part of the first master plan. Two versions of a master plan were created and ratified in a process that involved hundreds of person-hours at Edgewood's request. Now Edgewood has chosen to bypass that process completely, destroy its own master plan and abrogate all its agreements to push through this stadium by other means, ignore the liaison process, and silence opposition. That reflects a lack of goodwill and intent to ignore the

concerns of neighbors.

Sadly, that has been my experience as a neighbor to Edgewood High School. They are in our community but do not see themselves as a part of it and will not take responsibility for any impacts on the community. When we have had issues with irresponsible traffic putting local children as well as Edgewood students at risk, with vandalism, litter, and noise, Edgewood washes its hands. When Edgewood High School students vandalized my yard and tore down my political signs (Hillary Clinton and Russ Feingold signs), I spoke with the students, their parents, and the Madison Police. I told the police I would prefer this be worked out with the school and parents as a matter of civil society, rather than to take police time and consider this a criminal matter. The officers told me that when a complaint is referred to Edgewood HS administration they typically never get further response. Indeed that is what happened in my case: I never heard one word further from the parents or students involved, and Edgewood HS administration did not even reply to my messages to them. Since then my Black Lives Matter signs have been torn down twice. As an Edgewood HS neighbor I apparently have no recourse.

We can expect that all disruptive behavior associated with stadium traffic, alcohol consumption, litter, and noise in our neighborhood will be disavowed by Edgewood HS and either require a Madison PD response--unnecessary expense and not an appropriate use of our city resources--or just be suffered by local residents.

Most Edgewood High School families do not live in Dudgeon-Monroe or Vilas neighborhoods. If you proposed a stadium with lights and loudspeakers where they actually live they would not tolerate this proposal for a minute. They will trot out a couple of interested parties who live locally, but the vast majority commute here. Most of the consequences will fall on thousands of people who are neighborhood residents and the other Madisonians who enjoy the benefits of our peaceful area--a good mix of businesses, homes, and natural areas--every single day. This is much too much to demand for the benefit of a very few who do not care about the quality of life on the near west side of Madison and have underweighed the costs and risks.

Alders and Mayor, please do not make that mistake. We are counting on you to hear us. Please send Edgewood HS a message that it is time to stop playing games and trying to wear down its neighbors. What they are proposing is no "compromise," it is just a bad faith effort to get what they want through any means, no matter the consequences for our neighborhood, our city, our natural areas, and our faith in collaborative planning processes that should be embraced by all our institutions.

Thank you,

Kay Cahill

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Uphold the Plan Commission's decision, Vote NO on Edgewood's lighting application #60646
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:04:50 PM

From: Ed's ProtonMail Account <erahrens@protonmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:02:43 PM
To: All Alders; Mayor
Cc: Stouder, Heather
Subject: Uphold the Plan Commission's decision, Vote NO on Edgewood's lighting application #60646

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

To the Mayor and Common Council members,

I ask you to again deny Edgewood's application to add lights to their current practice field. As I am certain you are aware, the Plan Commission on 5/11/20 concluded that Edgewood could not demonstrate that the uses, values and enjoyment of the surrounding neighborhood would not be substantially impaired and diminished by the addition of lights. In fact, the Commission had questions regarding the possible detrimental effect of their current escalated daytime use of the field and proposed a further evaluation of that daytime use. They also suggested the need for on going meetings with the neighbors to broker a compromise. Unfortunately neither has occurred. No evaluation of daytime usage has occurred and there has been no exchange with neighbors. Yes, Edgewood has met with neighbors, but Edgewood refuses to dialogue. They have simply continued to offer the same unchanged position that they originally proposed close to 4 years ago.

Edgewood's practice field is simply in the wrong place for expansion to a "lighted stadium" and Edgewood has made it clear that they will not abide by any restrictions of their usage of the field over the long term. .

One may also find it surreal that at a time of worsening pandemic, new discussions regarding on-going racial injustice, a re-thinking of police roles, and widespread economic concerns, that an upper middle class private high school is again bringing this issue before the City of Madison and the neighborhoods surrounding Edgewood.

Ed Ahrens
1910 Jefferson St (2.5 blocks from east side of Edgewood property)
Madison, WI

Please upload my letter to Legistar #60646

November 30, 2020

I live at 820 Woodrow Street and ask that the Common Council deny Edgewood High School's appeal of the Plan Commission's decision from May 2020.

There are four things I would like to address:

- 1) Why noise is relevant
- 2) How Edgewood has proposed mitigating noise
- 3) How the City treats noise from athletic fields
- 4) Why the Plan Commission's decision was correct.

1) Why Noise is Relevant

Edgewood has asserted that field lighting will not cause additional noise. This is simply not true. The entire point of lights is to enable use to occur for additional hours of the day. Daytime noise generated by use of Edgewood's athletic field has often proved disruptive to myself, my family, and my neighbors. Use of the field will obviously result in noise in the evening hours as well.

Noise from the field has interfered with reading, conversation, gardening, and more. Noise is a portion of how lights would interfere with evening-specific uses too. Here's what my then 10-year-old daughter wrote and presented to the Plan Commission in May:

I like at night to sit calmly in the hammock reading with a light. We just bought a firepit too. If Edgewood played games at night, we would not be able to enjoy the sparkles of our firepit. The hammock would not be peaceful if there were shining lights and loud noises coming from the field. I came home one day to play with my neighbor Mikey because we had made up a dragon game when it got dark out. We would not be able to play in the dark if there were lights. I also like to look at the stars and moon every night but if there were lights, I would not be able to see them. I have Harry Potter nights with my family every weekend, and it has to be completely dark to do it. If there were lights, I would not be able to do that. These are some of the reasons I don't want to have lights right in front of our house. My dog waldo also likes to sleep peacefully and so do I, and I get really tired if I fall asleep late. The bright light will keep me up when I fall asleep at 8:30pm.

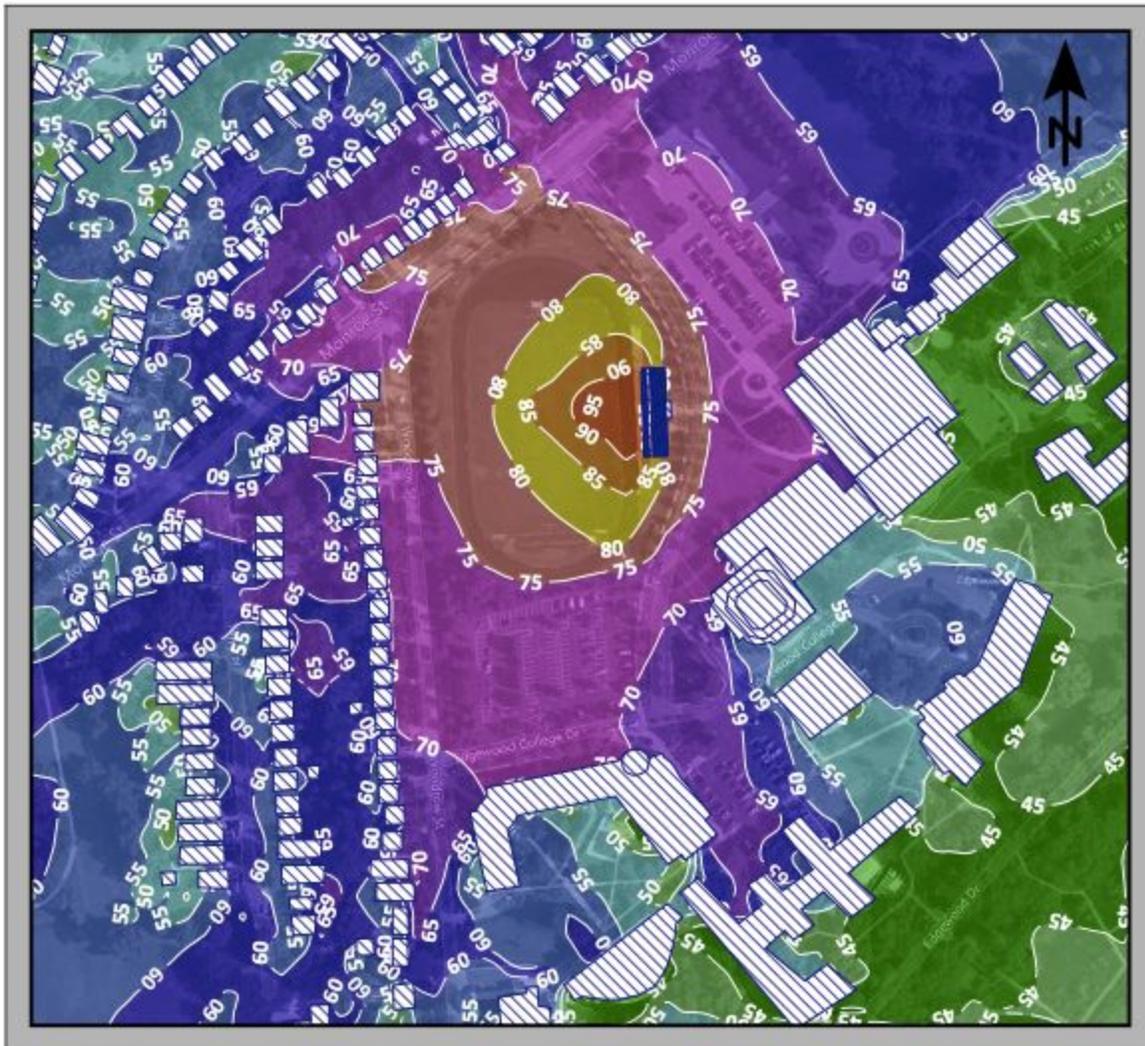
2) How Edgewood has proposed mitigating noise

I am one of the DMNA representatives to the Edgewood Neighborhood Liaison Committee and as such participated in meetings of the weekly Collaborative Working Group in Spring of 2019, and again over the past several months with a similar group of representatives from DMNA, Vilas NA, and Edgewood. The problem of reaching some sort of compromise before Edgewood

unilaterally withdrew in 2019 came down to the fact that *Edgewood failed to return with a proposal that offered any noise remediation*. The same thing took place this year.

Edgewood's refusal to compromise with neighbors should be seen in the context of the school's own sound study. This study can be found in [Legistar File 53954, attachment 9](#)

Here's an image from that study showing projected decibel levels from a game::



Edgewood's sound consultants suggested barriers might help, stating:

“Effective barriers are non-porous with a minimum surface weight of five pounds per square foot. This could be concrete or wood. If wood, the gaps between wood sections would need to be relatively airtight.”

Based on our SoundPlan evaluation, we have concluded that sound from the stadium as heard by the nearest residents could be reduced up to 5 dBA with a 16.6-foot tall barrier and up to 10 dBA for a 26.2-foot tall barrier, assuming neutral weather conditions.”

A sound study commissioned by neighbors suggests even higher noise levels would occur.

One of Edgewood’s Collaborative Working Group suggestions was formalized in their May application to the Plan Commission, which claims **“the field has significant screening along Woodrow Street.”**

Here’s a view from my front porch that month:



With only a single row of trees, it’s hard to imagine what Edgewood would deem *insufficient*. The sound experts with whom my neighbors and I consulted confirmed that the effect of a single row of trees on noise from the field is negligible; the number of trees required to mitigate noise from a crowd on the field would need to span across the entirety of Edgewood’s property, to Vilas on the East.

This lack of screening is a problem not only for noise but for light itself. My bedroom window, higher than my porch, would see the field as clearly and brightly as the crowd in the grandstands.

3) How the City treats noise from athletic fields

Madison's noise ordinances do not and will not protect neighbors from noise, no matter how loud or frequent, from the athletic field. City staff has affirmed as much.

Neighbors typically direct Edgewood concerns to DMNA's Edgewood liaisons, including myself. When I wrote to Madison Police Department Lieutenant Lori Chalecki about those concerns, she replied:

On Tue, Mar 26, 2019 at 11:15 PM Chalecki, Lori <LChalecki@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

>>

Hi Marc,

Thanks for your patience. I have had a chance to review your email and speak with Building Inspection.

Most of this issue is in the hands of BI and City Attorney. While I understand BI directed residents to call [MPD] for noise complaints, I think it is important for people to understand on the front end that likely the police will not take any action. We deal with noise issues based on reasonableness. A sporting event, with all that goes with a normal sporting event, would not be considered unreasonable. If they start having sporting events at midnight, that would be unreasonable and people should definitely call.

<<

Here's what Building Inspection said:

On Mon, Jun 3, 2019 at 9:58 AM Tucker, Matthew <MTucker@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

>>

Marc- I understand you and other neighbors' general unhappiness with noise from the field use, and your recognition/respect for the Police and their workload/priorities. Thank you for that.

As you know, the noise issue from the field is a Police matter, not Building Inspection. If people complain, the only recourse is for the Police to respond.

<<

After the repeal of Edgewood's master plan, neighborhood representatives met with our alder, Matt Tucker, Tim Parks, and John Strange. ACA Strange verbally confirmed that the emails from Building Inspection and MPD correctly represented the City's approach to noise from the field: complaints will be handled by the Police Department, which will likely not take any action.

In that meeting with City staff, When I subsequently asked what rights I then have as a property owner to protect myself from very loud noise that could occur on a nightly basis, Attorney Strange replied only that I have the right to present my case to the Plan Commission when Edgewood put forward its application. I did this, as did my neighbors.

4) Why the Plan Commission's decision was correct

At the plan commission meeting, negative impacts on the use, value and enjoyment of my property were demonstrated clearly through the documentation and testimony of myself and my family. Many neighbors shared their own similar experiences, and Edgewood's own sound study provides substantial evidence of the level of noise generated by games on the field. By disregarding the need for noise remediation, Edgewood effectively affirmed that harm will extend into the evening if approval of their application were to occur. The commission correctly determined that conditional use standards were not met.

Please deny Edgewood's appeal.

Sincerely,

Marc Gartler
820 Woodrow St.
Madison, WI 53711



820
Woodrow
Street







“We might think
we are nurturing our
garden, but of course
it’s our garden that is
really nurturing us.”

– JENNY UGLOW



Shawn Doherty

Opposed



November 30, 2020

To the leaders of my city and my neighborhood,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Edgewood High School's attempt to overthrow the decision of the city plan commission earlier in the year to disallow the upgrading of their sports practice field into a stadium, including the hosting of evening and night games. Denying Edgewood's appeal is a matter of social and civic justice. As has been demonstrated beyond a shadow of a doubt at previous hearings, such a stadium would profoundly and irrevocably affect the quality of life of countless families living in the neighborhood, as anyone can surmise by simply walking along Monroe Street, Woodrow Street, and other nearby streets and seeing how close the playing field is to people's places of residence. Of course the unwelcome noise of sports events would not extend to adjacent streets only, but would impact a large swath of those living in the immediate vicinity, an area of dozens of city blocks and hundreds of residences. A stadium will subject people living within the affected area to the stress-inducing screaming and shouting of crowds anytime a game takes place, throughout the school-year. Evening games will impose such completely unwelcome noise on families as they seek to retreat into the quiet of their evenings. How can such egregious imposition be allowed to happen? Edgewood's continued pursuit of this reflect a profound disregard for the lives and well-being of the community in which the campus is situated. Edgewood has consistently disregarded the will of the neighborhood, despite massive community pushback against its plan, and has remained dogged in its efforts to destroy our neighborhood through its institutional bullying, going so far as to sue the city on the ludicrous grounds of having violated its religious freedom by not allowing it to destroy neighborhood tranquility. Who do they not show contempt for—they treat the city with the same arrogance, disregard, and sense of entitlement that they show their neighbors? They have been and continue to be dishonest about virtually every aspect of the stadium, practices which are well-documented by other citizens. Edgewood's dishonesty undermines the integrity of its own arguments. There is nothing inherently wrong with a high school sports stadium, but you cannot in good conscience convert a practice field into a stadium in the very center of a long-established residential neighborhood, without profoundly harming the quality of life for residents of the area. How deeply disappointing Edgewood is. Please, please, please do the right thing and protect the lives and well-being of our neighborhood by denying this appeal. Thank you.

Rand Valentine
2901 Monroe St
Madison, WI 53711



Ethan Brodsky
866 Woodrow St

600 ft from the field

1996-1997

Attachment Two

Advisory Votes on Revised Conditional Use Plan

Note: Refer to the document EDGEWOOD/NEIGHBORHOOD WORKING GROUP, SITE ALTERNATIVE 6 NOTES, DRAFT OPERATIONAL AGREEMENTS (revised 16 July 1996)

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

- | | | |
|--|--------|-------|
| 1. Keeping corridor open between science facility and Edgedome Essential? | 34 yes | 4 no |
| Unacceptable because no firm commitment to road | 7 yes | 25 no |
| 2. Woodrow entrance/operational agreement to establish liaison group? Live with concept; back to council for details | 29 yes | 5 no |
| 3. Can you live with operational agreement relative to Woodrow St. entry? | 24 yes | 6 no |
| 4. Can you live with points 5 and 6 as defined in recommendations re: drop off, Park and Pleasure Drive language? | 30 yes | 5 no |
| 5. Do you support requiring Edgewood to construct and pay for structural supports to science ramp? | 20 yes | 12 no |
| 6. Accept Transportation Demand Management language? | 30 yes | 1 no |

FINE ARTS/PERIMETER

- | | | |
|--|--------|------|
| 7. Support in principle: | | |
| a) classroom space toward Woodrow, 30 foot building height, 15 degree elevation, habitable space on south elevation, notching? | 25 yes | 3 no |
| b) request for additional site elevations, including impact of differential setbacks from Woodrow/Monroe? Want to see differences in varying setback of Fine Arts Building from Woodrow. | 24 yes | 0 no |
| c) request Edgewood provide verification of parking claims in Fine Arts Building with sketches? | 26 yes | 1 no |
| 8. Support recommendations in #9 re: perimeter landscaping plus enhanced screening/landscaping on Monroe Street side during Phase I? | 25 yes | 0 no |

ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONS

- | | | |
|--|--------|------|
| 9. Support part 10 (with "Phase I" removed) including: no lights, no new PA system, 300 seat seasonal bleachers? | 16 yes | 1 no |
| 10. No permanent structure for athletic complex? | 17 yes | 1 no |
| 11. Support #11. | 13 yes | 1 no |

DRAFT

Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association, Inc.
Council Meeting August 14, 1996

Minutes

Attendance: Ken Golden, Peter Tan, Rachel Durfee, Char Thompson, Maggie Jungwirth, Kathy Schleifer, Kelly Larson, Melinda Starkweather, Shirley Lake, Bill Vanden Brook, Paula Benkart, Priscilla Arsove, Tom Huber

President Shirley Lake called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. The agenda was altered slightly to move up the Alder's Report and add sponsoring a candidates' forum to the Action Items.

ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONS

- | | | |
|--|--------|------|
| 9. Support part 10 (with "Phase I" removed) including: no lights, no new PA system, 300 seat seasonal bleachers? | 16 yes | 1 no |
| 10. No permanent structure for athletic complex? | 17 yes | 1 no |
| 11. Support #11. | 13 yes | 1 no |

ACTIVITIES & OPERATIONS

10. Track, Football, Soccer Complex Field
The Phase 1 configuration of the athletic field may include a soccer field, football field, 8 lane running track and 300-seat bleachers. complex-preferred by the Neighbors includes:

- ~~No lights.~~
- ~~No new PA system.~~
- ~~300 seat bleachers.~~

The Phase 1 configuration of the athletic field complex-preferred by the High School includes:

- ~~Lights for 14 night games per year.~~
- ~~A new PA system designed to minimize impacts on neighborhood residents.~~
- ~~A 700 seat grandstand.~~

Phase 2 improvements to the athletic field complex will require additional Conditional Use Plan approval. Depending on approved Phase 1 improvements, these might include:

- ~~A new PA system.~~
- ~~Lights for 14 night games per year.~~
- ~~A new or expanded grandstand.~~

Reasons for denial

- Incompatible location
 - West and East lack stadium lights
 - Memorial stadium lighting predates Dark Skies ordinance
 - LaFollette's stadium much further from homes - also pre-1993
 - Breese Stevens has had lights since 1930s
 - Burr Jones is in commercial area and much further from homes
 - Comparable new light installation has never been permitted
- Harm from light
- Harm from nighttime sound enabled by light
- Proposed lighting violates city lighting ordinance
 - Upward-facing lights are included as part of proposal
 - No discussion in application of upward-facing lights

Application is not supported by substantial evidence

Edgewood's Stadium Proposal

Rendering of proposed lights based on CAD model from EHS's site drawing

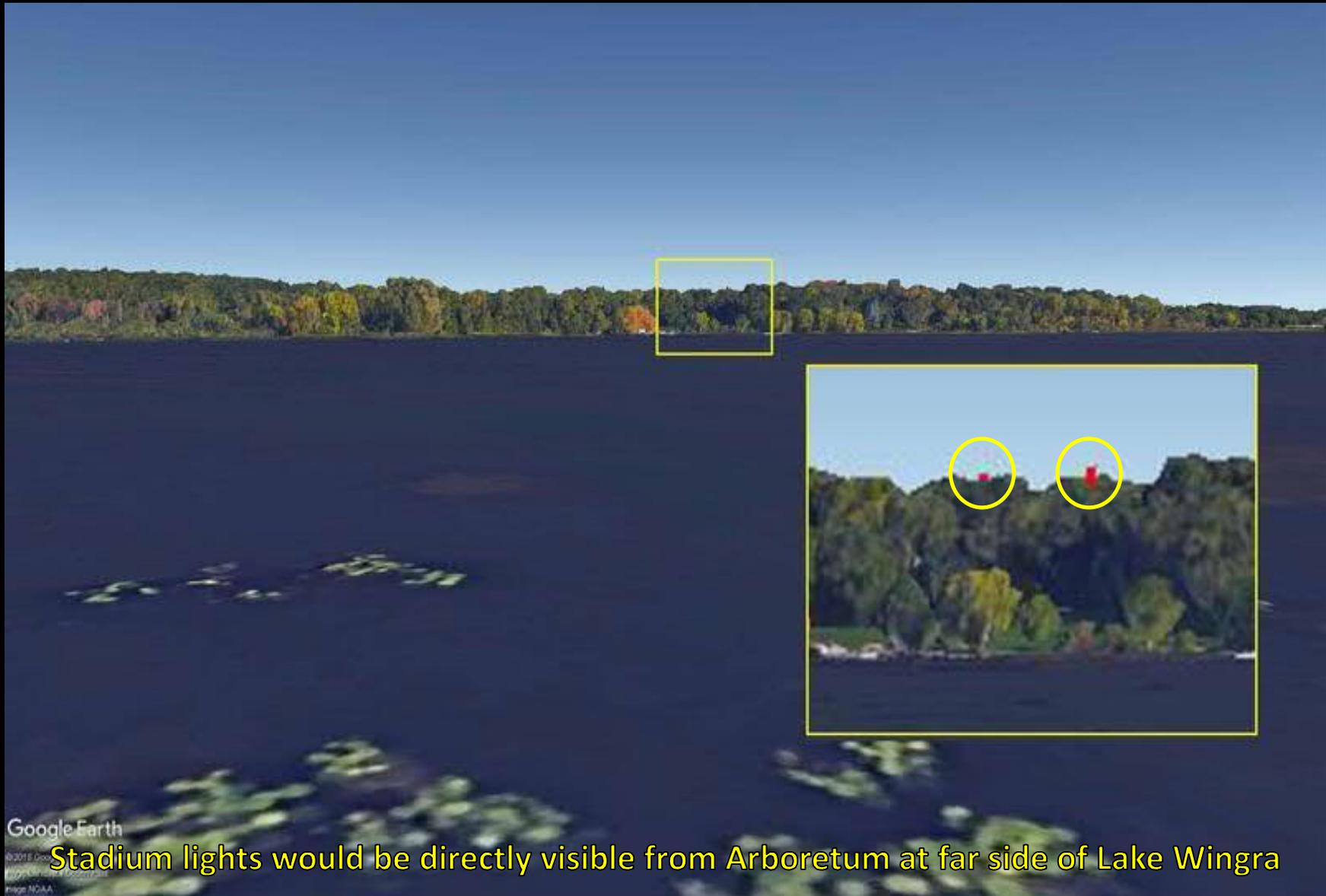


View from home at 812 Woodrow Street



View from home at 2310 Monroe Street

Impacts an enormous area



Stadium lights would be directly visible from Arboretum at far side of Lake Wingra

Google Earth

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Google LLC.

Noise Impact

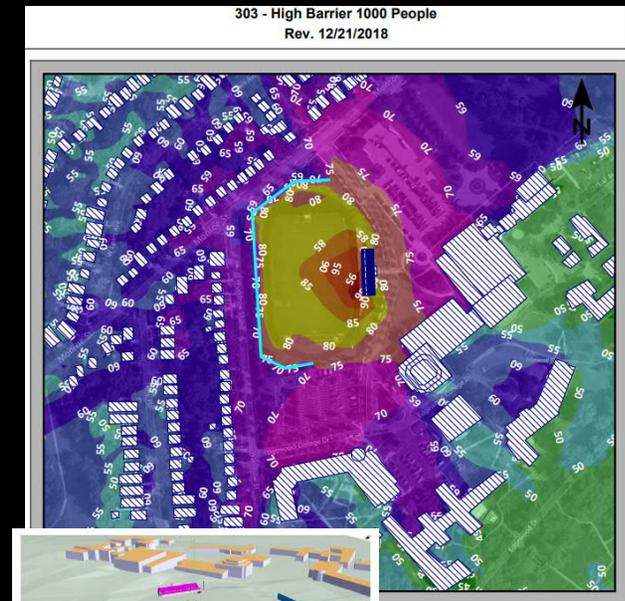


Figure 7 - Noise Model with Noise Barrier Shown

Prepared For: Philip Roggin Professional Audio Designs, Inc.	Prepared By: Mike Riccio TLC Engineering for Architecture	Reviewed By: Richard Talasee The Talasee Group	Project Owner: Edgewood High School Madison, WI
Calculation Date: 12/21/2018 Run No. 103 Run: 103-No Wall/1000 People SoundPLAN 8.0 11/9/2018			

Edgewood's Own Noise Study (Jan 2019)

Noise would regularly exceed 80 dB for homes on Woodrow, Monroe, Terry, and West Lawn
Noise would occasionally exceed 90 dB if capacity is increased to 1000
These noise levels will be experienced inside people's homes with the windows open
Even with windows shut, noise levels would be so loud as to interfere with conversation
Comparable to being 50 feet from a chainsaw, lawnmower, or a tractor-trailer at highway speeds
Noise levels exceeding 70 dB would affect large areas of DMNA, Vilas, and Regent
Noise levels will be loud enough to interfere with spoken conversation and disrupt sleep
This noise levels are already annoying during the day - would be obnoxious at night
Edgewood's own noise study found similarly and recommended a 26' wall around the site
Their study found that events with as few as 150 spectators would exceed 70 dB in homes

Light Impact - 4.2 million lumens

Sampling locations were chosen by overlaying a map of our neighborhood, with the current location of Edgewood's practice field, onto a map of Waunakee's stadium, and matching the horizontal distance from the sideline and position along the field for each sampling point to what they would be in our neighborhood. At each of location, collected quantitative data on sound and light using professional digital instruments. All light measurements were collected with an Extech 403125 digital illuminance meter. It reads out in 0.01 lux increments and is accurate to +-5% of reading + 10 digits in its low range. Measurements were taken of horizontal illuminance (typically used for measuring sky glow) and vertical illuminance (typically used for measuring light trespass).

At locations that correspond to homes on Woodrow, nighttime levels with stadium lights would be comparable to what you would experience at civil twilight (less than 20-30 minutes after sunset), rather than at nighttime, and are many times brighter than a full moon.

Currently levels are 50x less (0.00-0.06 lux)

This will be an enormous change in the night sky over a large area

Stadium lights would illuminate the night to the point where it would be bright enough to drive a car without headlights. This would extend to neighboring homes.

Sky glow will be visible over an enormous area

Middleton stadium lights @ 1.5 mi brighter than streetlights

MGO 10.085(3)(a)(2):

"All fixtures greater than 1,000 initial lumens (equivalent to 70 watts incandescent)"

EHS proposal:

4,246,400 lumens
(39,100 W)

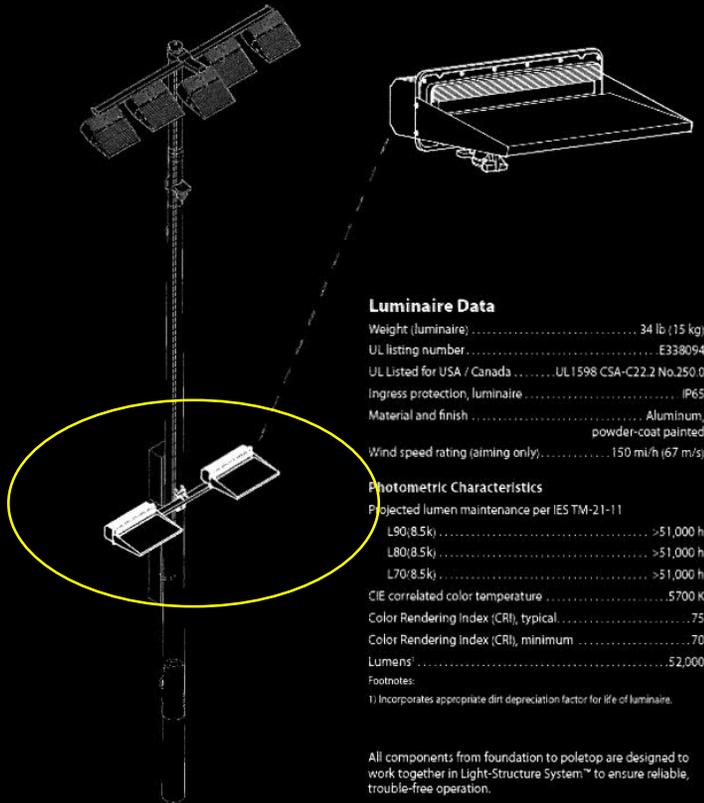
Middleton High School football stadium viewed from 1.5 miles away



Proposed lighting violates city standards

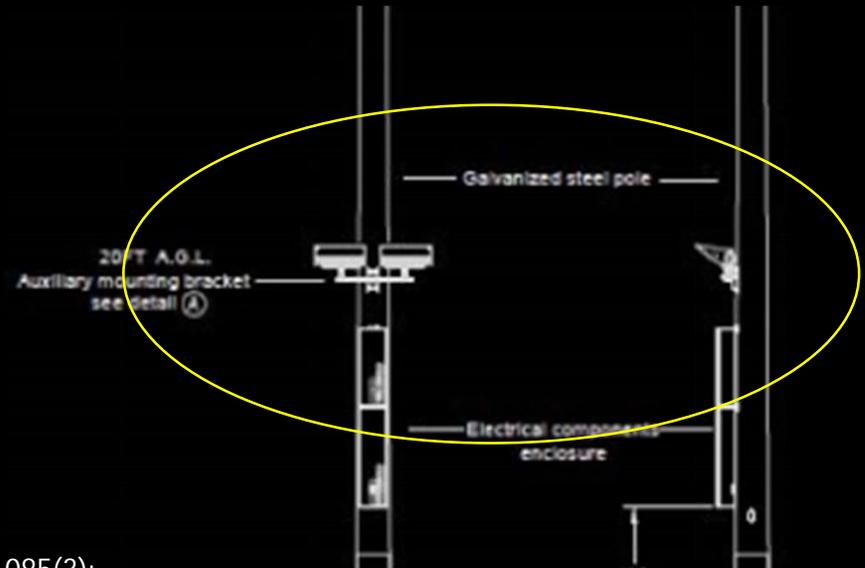
Datasheet: **Light-Structure System™**

Luminaire and Driver Components – TLC-BT-575



8 x 52,000-lumen
upwards-facing
"Punt Lights"

Shown in drawing but not disclosed or discussed anywhere
Emitters will be directly visible from bedroom windows



MGO 10.085(3):

"(a) All outdoor lighting fixtures installed and thereafter maintained upon private or public residential, commercial, industrial and other nonresidential property shall comply with the following

...

2. All fixtures greater than 1,000 initial lumens (equivalent to 70 watts incandescent) shall be full cutoff, or shall be shielded or installed so that there is not a direct line of sight between the light source or its reflection and a point five (5) feet or higher above the ground at the property boundary. The light source shall not be of such intensity so as to cause discomfort or annoyance."

Definition: "Shielded or Cutoff Lighting Fixtures ... No light is permitted at an angle more than four degrees (4) above horizontal."

Comparables

Facility (Zoning)	Lights	Date Installed	Nearest Residences (Surrounding Zoning)
Edgewood High School (CI)	No		~150 ft from single-family residential (TR-C2)
Madison West High School (CI)	No		~100 ft from single-family residential
Madison East High School (CI)	No		~50 ft from single-family residential (TR-C4, TR-V1)
Madison Memorial High School (CI)	Yes	1970s	~150 ft from low-density residential (SR-V2, SE, CC, CN)
Madison LaFollette High School (CI)	Yes	pre-1993	~1000 ft from residential (SR-C1, SR-C3, NMX, PR)
Breese Stevens Field (PR)	Yes	1930s	~150 ft from single-family residential, on E. Wash (TR-V1, TR-C4, TE)
Burr Jones Field (CN)	Yes	2019	~550 ft from homes (TR-V1, TR-C4, TE, CC-T, TE)
UW Nielsen/Goodman/McClimon (CI)	Yes	Unknown	~1500 ft from UW-owned residences, >1/2 mi from others
Vilas Ice Rinks (PR)	Yes	Pre-1980	~400 ft from nearest home, ~800 ft for hockey rink (PR)
Duane Bowman Park (PR)	Yes	Unknown	~600 ft from nearest home (town) (IL, SR-C2, CC-T, town)
Warner Park Softball Diamonds (PR)	Yes	Pre-2000	~175 ft from nearest homes (SR-V1, SR-C1, CC-T)
Olbrich Softball Diamonds (PD)	Yes	Pre-2000	~180 ft from nearest homes (TR-V1, TE)
Westmoreland Ice Rinks (CN)	Yes	1950s?	~100 ft from nearest homes (TR-C1, TR-C2)
Otto Breitenbach Stadium (Middleton)	Yes	Unknown	~500 ft from nearest homes (City of Middleton)
Verona High School Stadium (Verona)	Yes	2020	~600 ft from apartment building
Waunakee High School Stadium (Waunakee)	Yes	Unknown	~500 ft from homes

- No recent light installations this close to homes
- The existence of other lights, installed under older laws that may not have recognized the harm that they caused, is not a justification for newly subjecting this neighborhood to that harm, under the current zoning law.

Elephant in the Room

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN**

EDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL)	
OF THE SACRED HEART, INC.,)	
Plaintiff,)	Case No. 3:19-cv-683
v.)	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
CITY OF MADISON, WISCONSIN;)	
CITY OF MADISON ZONING BOARD)	
OF APPEALS; Zoning Administrator)	
MATTHEW TUCKER, in his official)	
capacity; and Director of Madison's Building)	
Inspection Division GEORGE HANK,)	
in his official capacity,)	
Defendants.)	

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Edgewood High School of the Sacred Heart, Inc., by its undersigned attorneys, files this complaint against Defendants City of Madison, Zoning Administrator Matthew Tucker, in his official capacity, and Director of Madison's Building Inspection Division George Hank, in his official capacity, and alleges:

“...it is Edgewood’s expectation that the process will result in the City issuing Edgewood the permits necessary to erect lights on the athletic field before the start of the 2020-2021 academic year. While it is Edgewood’s sincere hope to not have to restart the litigation in the future, that option remains available to us as a last resort, if necessary.”

- Edgewood High School, 10 Feb 2020

November 30, 2020

To: Heather Stouder, All Alders

From: Robert Meyer and Teresa Nyholt (812 Woodrow Street, Madison, WI 53711)

Cc: Mayor Rhodes-Conway

Re: Agenda Item 4. Appeal of Planning Commission Decision on Lighting Edgewood Athletic field

Dear Ms. Stouder and City Leaders,

(Please upload my letter to Legistar #60646)

We am writing to express my thoughts about Edgewood High School's appeal of the 7-1 decision by the Planning Commission to deny conditional use permit application. We oppose any appeal of the Planning Commission's decision. As you can see from our letter and the distance their field is from our home, Edgewood High School cannot light their practice field for use in games, or evening practices or events without impacting the use, value and enjoyment of our home. The Planning Commission decision wasn't even close, please respect their decision.

We live directly adjacent to the athletic field off Woodrow Street in one of the houses on the upper end of the street that are very close to the athletic field. We are opposed to any plan to install lighting at the field. The current, expanded use of the athletic field, since the upgrade to artificial turf (2015) has already impacted our lives through more frequent and intrusive sound coming from the field. Given the proximity of our house to the field, we can hear the sound from practices and games on the athletic field in every room of our house. As is exists now this intrudes upon afternoon homework time, evening meal time, and even our youngest child's bed time (two of our three bedrooms face the field) the only thing that reduces the noise to normal residential neighborhood levels is darkness. The addition of lights would extend this time without the ability to limit, enforcement or recourse.

Use: The addition of lights to the field would curtail the use of our home. Quiet resting and sleeping hours would be impacted by the accompanying noise that a lighted field brings. Two of the three bedrooms in our home face the field so light and noise from the field would impair the normal use of those rooms. Everyday conversations are already disrupted by field noise. In addition – there is no physical barrier to sound or light from the field that would be practical (photo shows topography, fence around field is 8 feet tall for reference). The field is higher than the street level and is essentially even with the first floor of our home with no buffer. This same effect would happen with lights as the rest of the area would be dark, except for the field. Prior to Edgewood Campus changing the street lights on Edgewood College Drive, we could make shadow puppets from the glare of those lights inside our front bedrooms, and those lights were on the opposite side of the field from our home. As you can see from Photo 2 below, our home sits level with or slightly above the field with no barriers for sound or light. If the field is lit at night it will be visible, period.

Value: As the real estate saying goes, “Location, location, location.” Similar athletic stadium construction in other cities in Wisconsin and around the country has negatively affected home prices and resale. Consider the difference between moving next to a school’s practice field versus a stadium with 80 foot light poles looming over the adjacent neighborhood homes. Edgewood’s actions would limit the number of pool of potential buyers as people would be concerned with the same impacts we are discussing here (frequency and hours of use, light and shadow falling on surrounding homes, noise from practices and competitions).

Enjoyment: As close as we are to the field, any time there are people using it, shouting, etc. it’s audible both inside and outside our home. With lights, comes use, and with use comes noise. As with most families, our home is a source of work, enjoyment and refuge – a place to rest, have meals with family and friends and sleep. Since the upgrade to artificial turf and the constant pressure to expand this facility into a full blown stadium (lights, grandstand, sound system) has impacted the sense of well-being and permanence we feel now about our living here. It feels as if there will be no end to the requests to impose their wants over our needs. There are and have been other options for evening competitions that have worked for the entire history of Edgewood High School.

Respectfully,

Robert Meyer and Teresa Nyholt

812 Woodrow Street, Madison, WI 53711

Photo below:

View from upper bedroom window:

The current stadium bleachers are just to the left of the pine tree aimed at our home (not Edgewood campus). As you can see if this field were lighted at night, rather than a dark surface, the field would brighten the front two bedrooms, and the entire first floor of our 3 bedroom home. The location of a light pole would (as proposed) would be right across from our house.



From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Edgewood Stadium
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 8:54:39 AM

From: Mark Berggren <berggrenmark@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 8:54 AM
To: Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Edgewood Stadium

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

Hello all:

We live close to Edgewood HS, College and the Stadium. While we are not completely opposed to lights at the Stadium provided they are only used for limited home football games (that seems reasonable) and have noise mitigation, Edgewood does not seem to want to cooperate/negotiate with the neighborhood. Unlimited use of lights, the stadium and amplification would cause the uses, values and enjoyment of my residence to be substantially impaired and diminished by the bright lights, loud noise and traffic that accompany competitive night games.

I should add that Edgewood *had* been a good partner to the neighborhood. Unfortunately, they have changed tack and have again decided to act unilaterally and thumb their nose at their neighbors. They are not acting in good faith. To try to push this through during the time of the pandemic, when so many are distracted trying to maintain health, jobs, and food supplies, is irresponsible and borderline immoral. Likewise the constant threat of lawsuits to get what they want (big pockets trying to "buy" justice) - this is not compromise. Edgewood HS's mission statement is

Edgewood, a Catholic high school, educates the whole student for a life of learning, service, and personal responsibility through a rigorous academic curriculum that embraces the Sinsinawa Dominican values of Truth, Compassion, Justice, Community and Partnership.

These actions, especially now, are the opposite of "truth, compassion, justice, community and partnership." Negotiation is not take it or leave it. Unilateral action is not community and partnership (note most students do not live in the affected community).

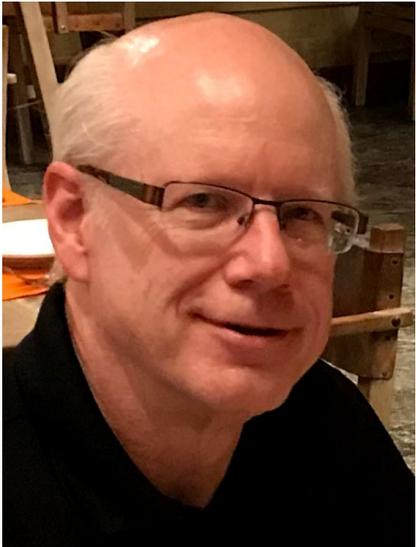
The point is, unlimited use of the lights would change the neighborhood and would cause the uses, values and enjoyment of my residence to be substantially impaired and diminished by the bright lights, loud noise and traffic that accompany competitive night games

Please vote no on the appeal of stadium lights for Edgewood's field.

Thank you,

Mark and Julie Berggren

Impact of Athletic Field Nighttime Noise



Brad Boyce

938 Woodrow St

Substantial Evidence of Harmful Noise

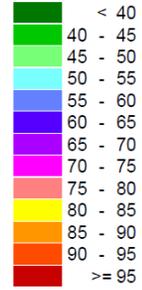
- Predicted **by** Edgewood HS
- World Health Organization projects significant harm

Goodman Athletic Complex

301 - High Barrier 150 People

Rev. 12/21/2018

Levels in dB(A)

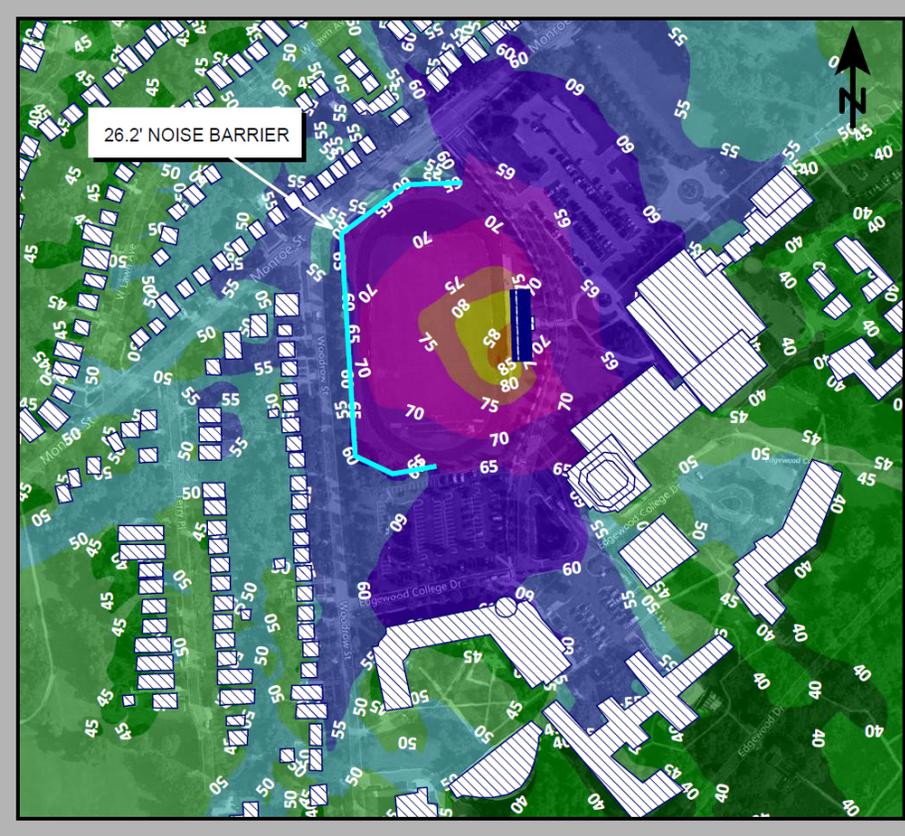


Noise Sources:

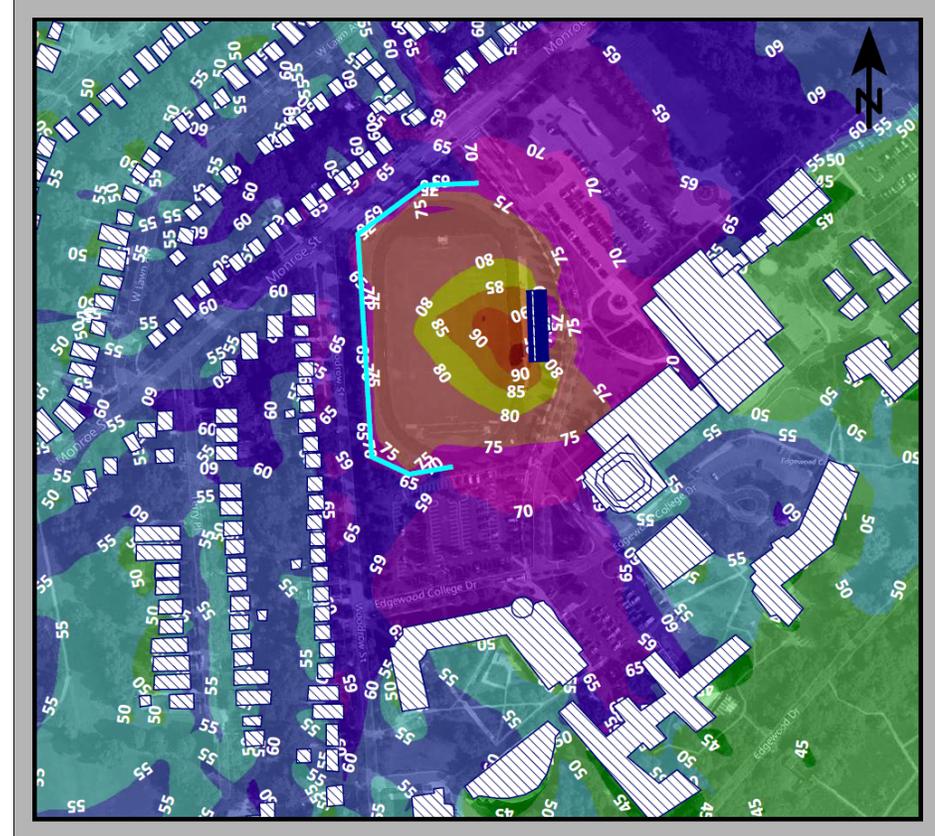
- (150) Spectators
- (22) Players On Field
- (1) Referee's Whistle
- (2) R2-94 Loudspeakers
- (28) Pep Band Musicians

Conditions

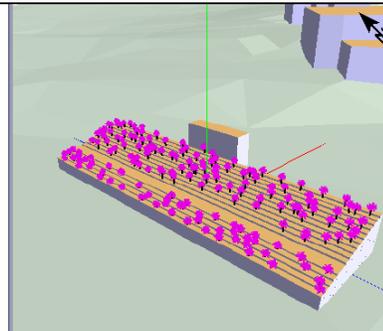
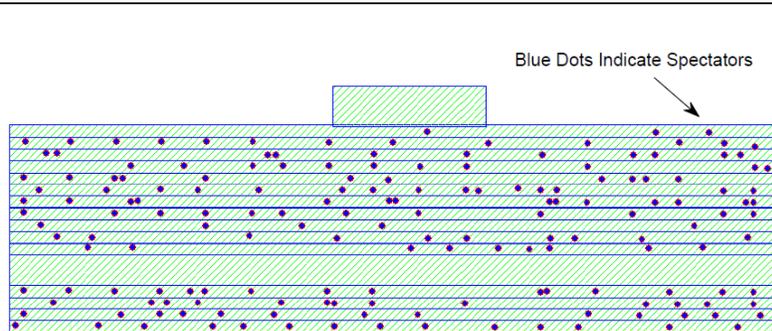
Calculations based at 1.5m above terrain.



LAeq (1-Hour Average)



LAmox (Peak)



Prepared For:
Phillip Roeglin
Professional Audio Designs, Inc.

Prepared By:
Mike Nicolai
TLC Engineering for Architecture

Reviewed By:
Richard Talaske
The Talaske Group

Project Owner:
Edgewood High School
Madison, WI



Calculation Date: 12/21/2018

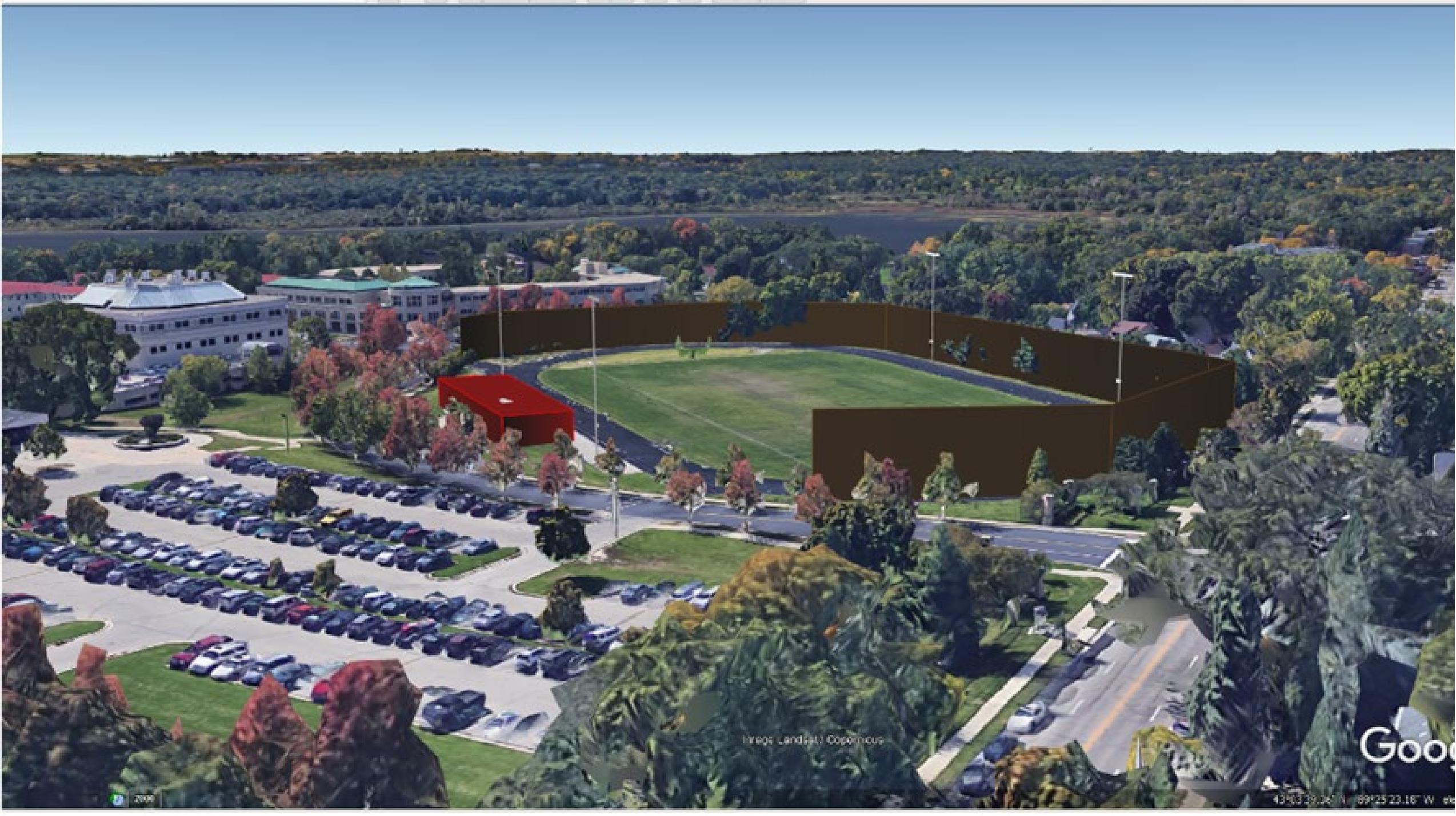
Run No. 301

Run: 301-High Wall/150 People

SoundPLAN 8.0 11/9/2018

Length Scale 1:278





Tree Landscaping / Copernicus

Good

World Health Organization Report

2007

NIGHT NOISE GUIDELINES FOR EUROPE

Average night noise Health effects observed in the population level over a year	Health effects observed in the population
Up to 30 dbA	lowest level where adverse effect can be measured
Above 55 dbA	Adverse health effects occur frequently, a sizeable proportion of the population is highly annoyed and sleep-disturbed. There is evidence that the risk of cardiovascular disease increases

European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

2005

Noise in figures

Noise and problems with oral communication

... The signal:noise ratio (in terms of signal processing) should be at least 10 dB(A) to ensure undisturbed communication. In noisy work situations, people are able to converse with difficulty at a distance of 1 metre for a short time in the presence of noise as high as 78 dB(A). In order to be intelligible, the sound level of speech must be greater than the background noise at the ear of the listener. For prolonged conversations, the background noise level must be lower than 78 dB(A). In social situations, people often talk at distances of 2 to 4 metres. In such cases noise level should not exceed 55 to 60 dB(A). In outdoor play and recreational areas, people communicate at distances of 5 to 10 metres. In such cases background noise should not exceed 45 to 55 dB(A). Average sound pressure levels of the human voice at 1 metre distance range between 60 dB (normal conversation) and 75 dB (speech) ⁽¹⁰⁴⁾.

The Reason so many attempts at “compromise” have Failed

Evidence is clear:

- Many noise measurements demonstrate the high noise levels
- Engineered simulations show mitigation attempts will be of little value

Damage to the Neighbors on two levels

- Health and Well-Being (in-depth studies by numerous organizations)
- Disruption that causes reduced value of homes and properties by damaging livability

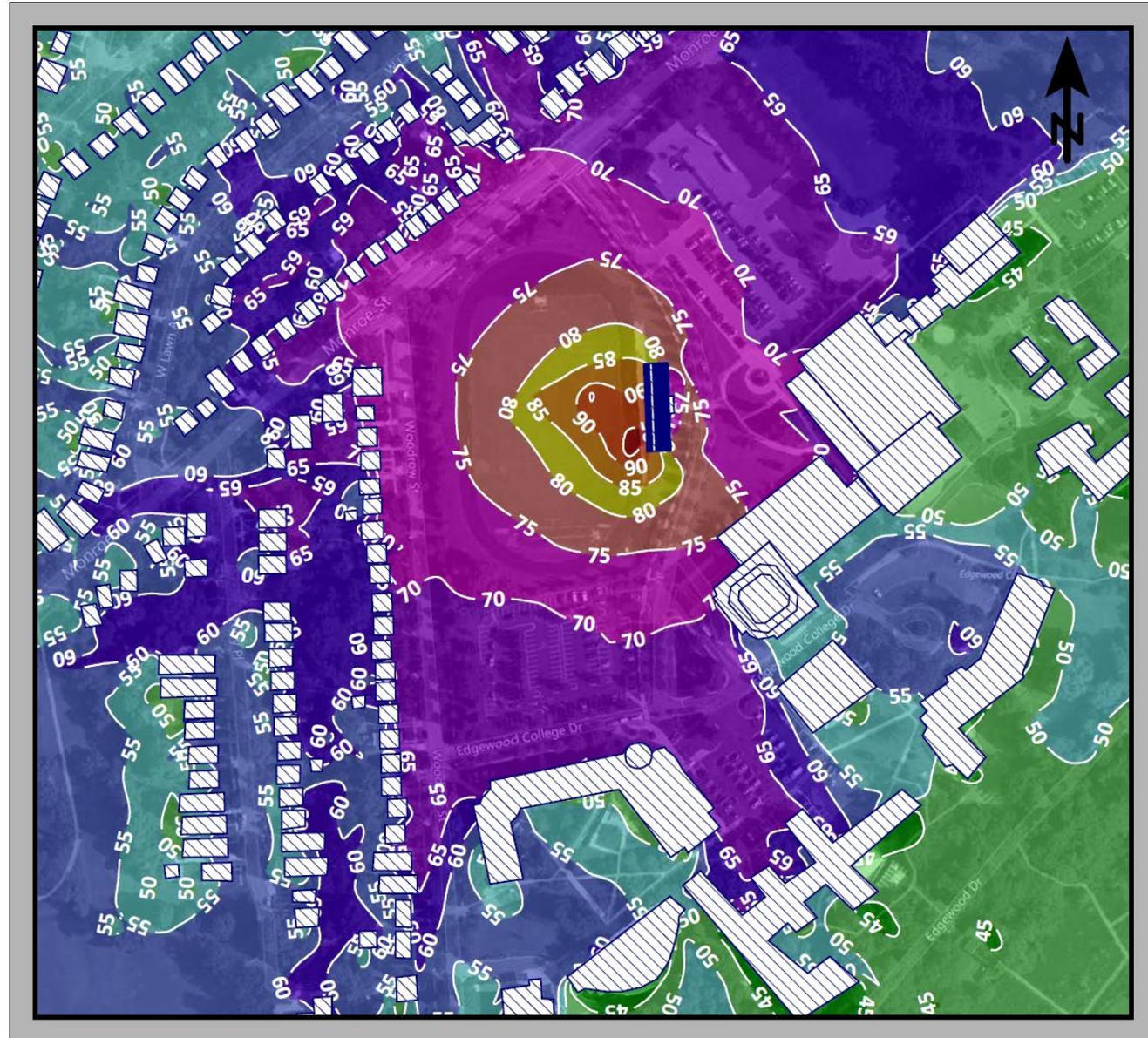
Trust

- In the face of the neighbor’s experience with Edgewood and the City’s poor regulatory position, I feel there is no way for neighbors of Edgewood to *bend without being broken*.

Goodman Athletic Complex

101 - No Wall 150 People

Rev. 12/21/2018



LAmx (Peak)



820 Woodrow

Marc Gartler

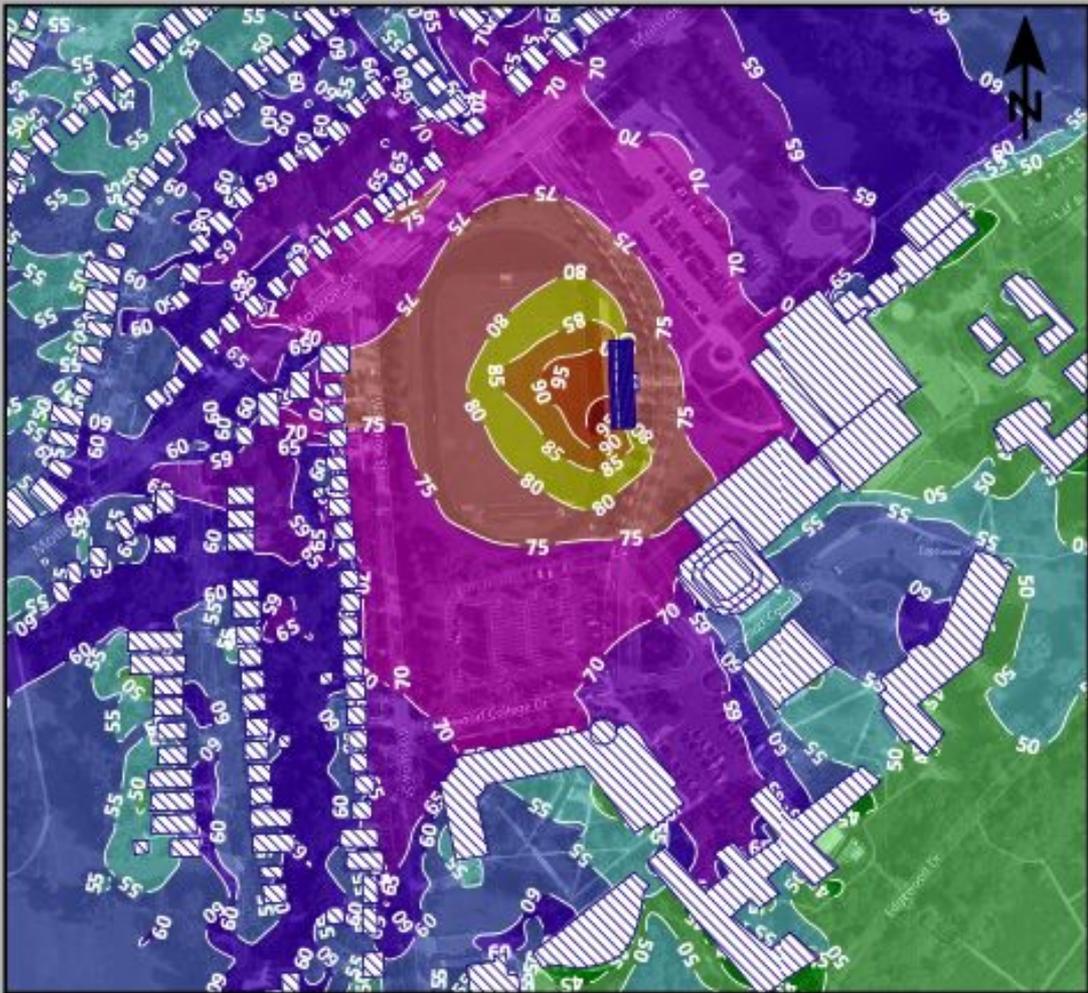


**EHS:
“the field
has
significant
screening
along
Woodrow
Street.”**



Addie, 10:

“If Edgewood played games at night, we would not be able to enjoy the sparkles of our firepit. The hammock would not be peaceful if there were shining lights and loud noises coming from the field.”



Edgewood's noise mitigation proposal

*On Tue, Mar 26, 2019 at 11:15 PM Chalecki, Lori
<LChalecki@cityofmadison.com> wrote:*

Hi Marc,

Thanks for your patience. I have had a chance to review your email and speak with Building Inspection.

Most of this issue is in the hands of BI and City Attorney.

*While I understand BI directed residents to call [MPD] for noise complaints, I think **it is important for people to***

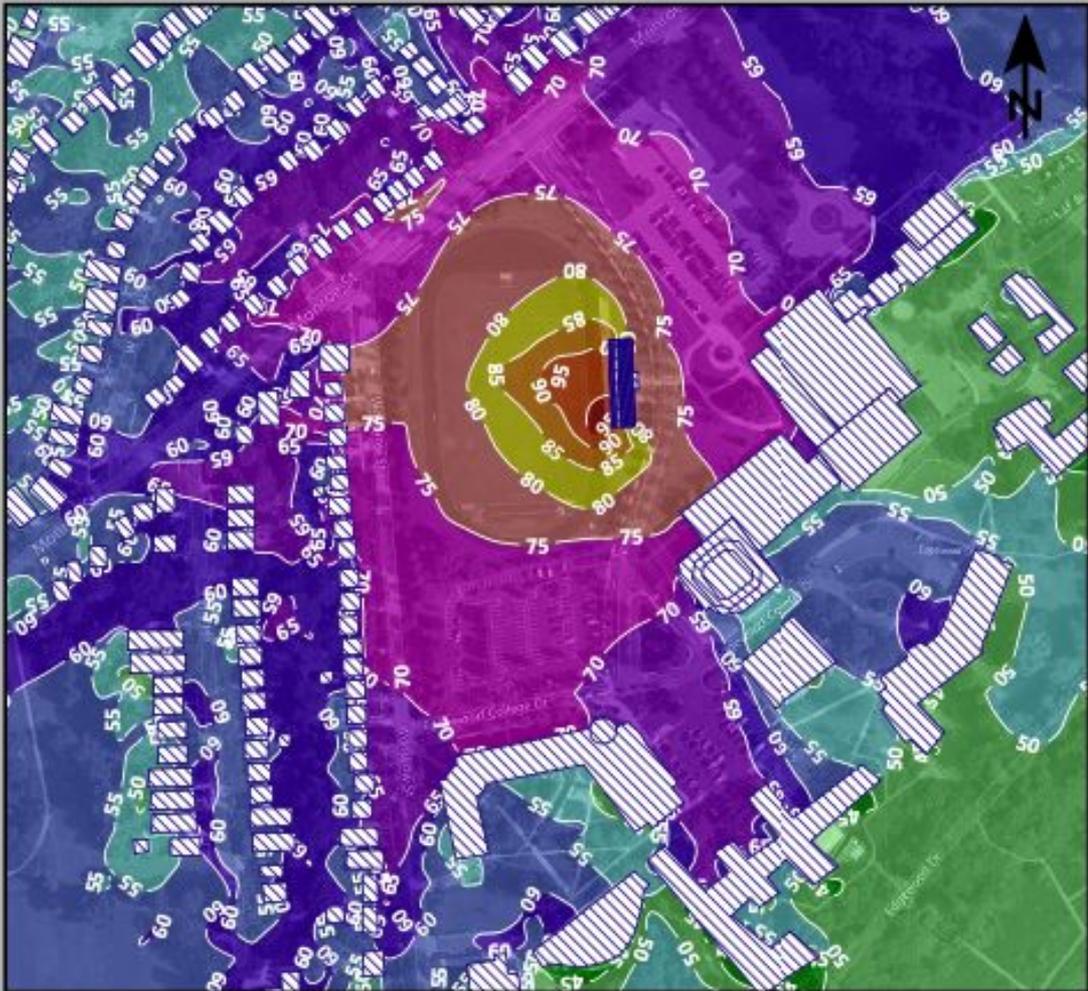
understand on the front end that likely the police will not take any action.

On Mon, Jun 3, 2019 at 9:58 AM Tucker, Matthew <MTucker@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

Marc- I understand you and other neighbors' general unhappiness with noise from the field use, and your recognition/respect for the Police and their workload/priorities. Thank you for that.

As you know, the noise issue from the field is a Police matter, not Building Inspection. If people complain, the only recourse is for the Police to respond.

Attorney Strange, verbally:
Neighbors can only
address noise through our
presentation to the Plan
Commission

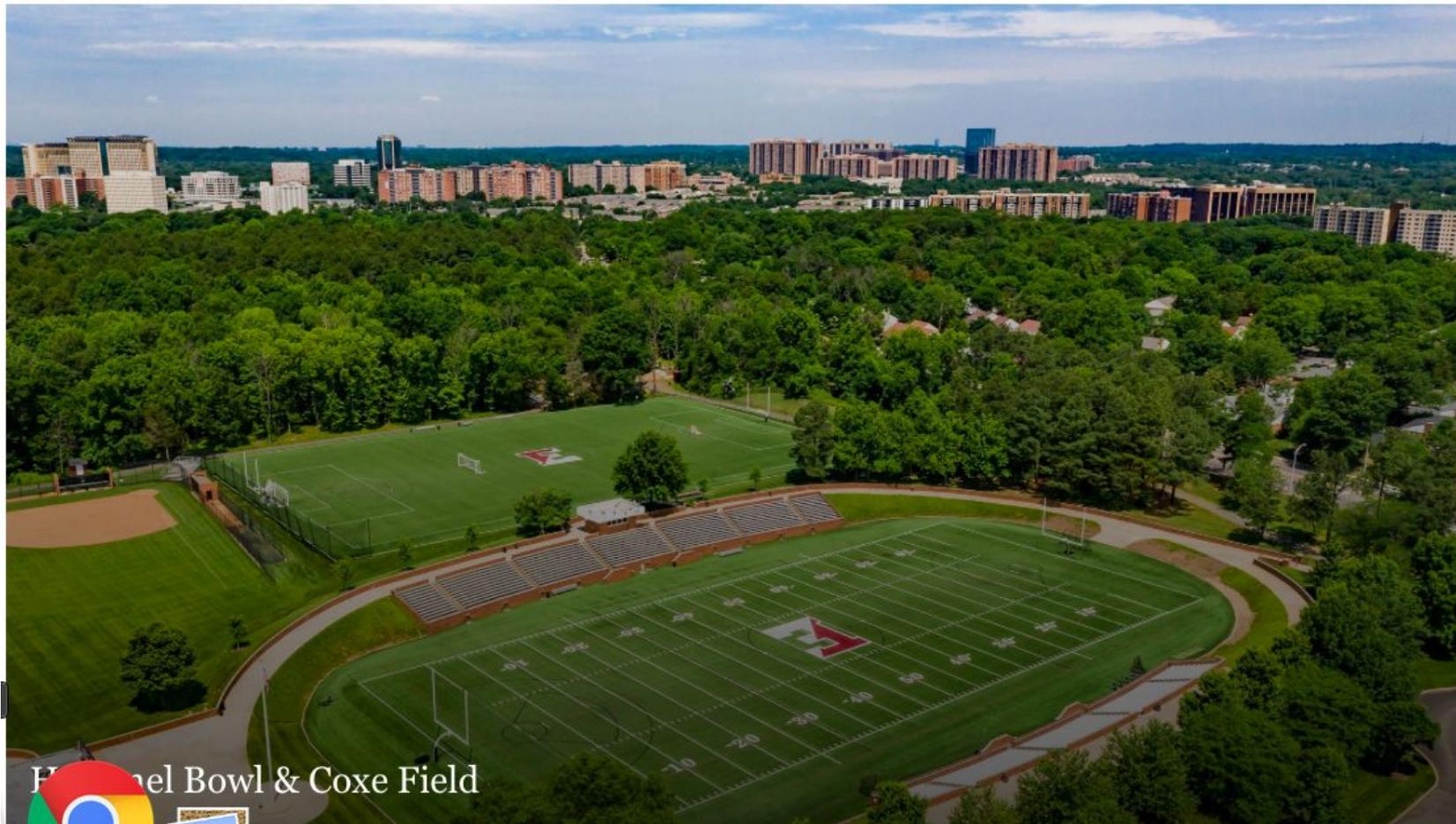


Edgewood's noise mitigation proposal

My Civics Report

**A.K.A. EDGEWOOD DOESN'T NEED LIGHTS, IT JUST
WANTS THEM**

**Here is Episcopal High School's
stadium in Alexandria, Virginia**



Panel Bowl & Coxe Field



**As you may
notice, this
stadium has no
80-foot tall
lights**

**yet it still
produced
football players
that would make
millions.**

No lights. Games during the day only.

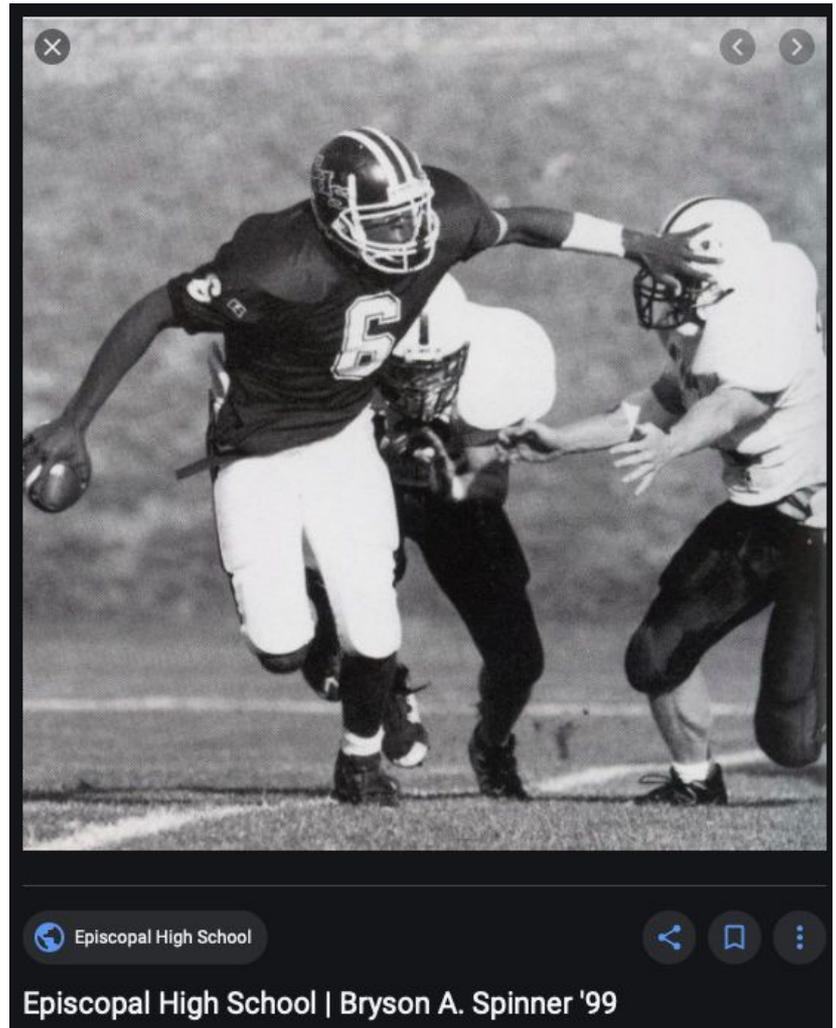
Panel Bowl & Coxe Field



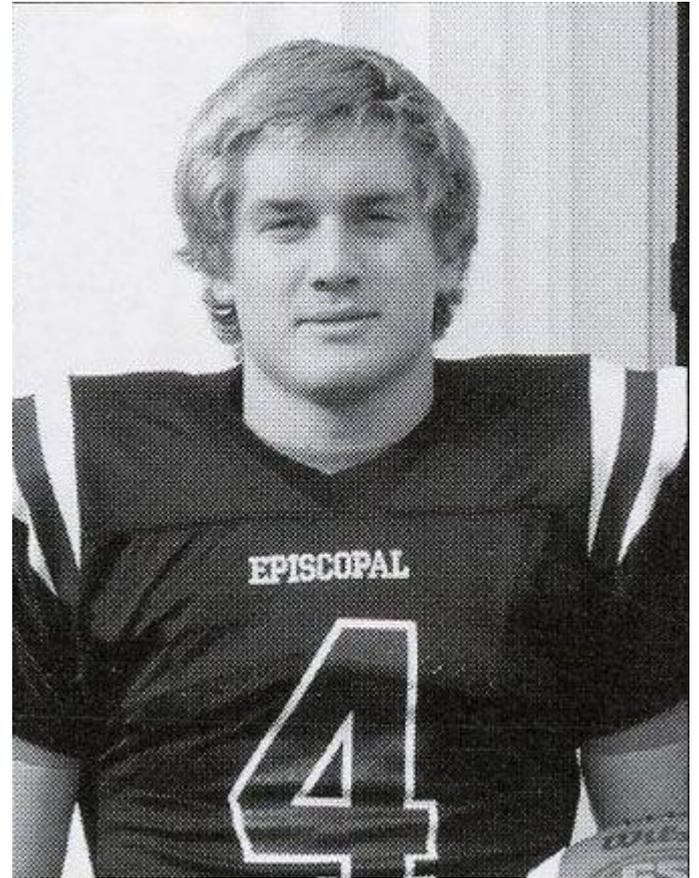
Timothy Michael Hightower (born May 23, 1986) is a running back. After playing for Alexandria Episcopal High School he was drafted by the Arizona Cardinals in the fifth round of the 2008 NFL Draft. He also played for the Washington Football team and New Orleans Saints.



Bryson Spinner also played for Episcopal. He went on to play for the Jacksonville Jaguars.



Danny Coale: he also played for Alexandria Episcopal on their football, track, and Lacrosse teams. He went on to play for the Dallas Cowboys in 2007, then the Indianapolis Colts and Pittsburgh Steelers.



These players are professionals, and they did not need lights. Neither does Edgewood high school. Things are bad enough as it is, with their lacrosse team blaring loud music and yelling repeatedly.



**EDGEWOOD DOES NOT NEED LIGHTS ON
THEIR STADIUM, CASE CLOSED.**



Panel Bowl & Coxe Field