

**From:** A New Hope Collectible Toys & Comics  
**Sent:** Monday, September 17, 2018 1:40 PM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <[HStouder@cityofmadison.com](mailto:HStouder@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Subject:** Ascendant Hotel

Hi Heather,

Please pass along my concerns to the plan commission for their meeting in regards to the Ascendant Hotel development.

Thank you

Dear planning commission,

I own and operate two retail businesses on State street and have seen a steady decline in the retail sector of State street over the past 15 years. Due in large part to the city's lack of a long term plan to help these struggling local independent stores. Allowing another large developer to take up city time and resources when you could be doing so much more to increase and promote the "downtown vibe" that Madison has become known for feels like a slight to all of us small business owners. While we all appreciate the efforts to increase tourism to our great city, due to the lack of diversity in retail options, many Madisonians no longer see State street as a viable shopping opportunity.

I do not support this development plan and appreciate your time in hearing my concerns.

Zach Leavy

Mimosa Books & Gifts

■ State Street

A New Hope Collectible Toys & Comics

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