

To the ALRC:

I write to oppose the Change of Premise application for The Mason Lounge to have an outdoor seating area. The proposed outdoor seating area is in a small rear parking lot that has little traffic. A residential neighbor's bedroom window overlooks the area. The neighbor is handicapped and when we talked last his wife was in the hospital.

I very much appreciate Bryan Richgels' business and I want it to succeed. He has brought responsible management to a site that has seldom had it in the past. Likewise, he has modified this application to make it less intrusive, with no smoking, no music, and closing at 10:00.

However, the outdoor seating will result in the neighbor having a cocktail party literally under his bedroom window every night of the week.

I simply do not believe that Mr Richgels' right to make money trumps the right of the neighbor to live peacefully in his own home. There is always tension where commercial and residential land uses meet. The current arrangement, where the business faces Park St and the much less busy backside is toward the neighborhood, is good and should be preserved.

I ask you to deny this application.

I'll try to attend the ALRC meeting on 7/25. But I have four meetings that night, so I might not make it.

Thanks.

Sue

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Sue Ellingson, Alder  
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