

AGENDA # 1

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: LANDMARKS COMMISSION

PRESENTED: March 3, 2014

TITLE: Adopting the University Avenue Corridor Plan and the goals, recommendations, and implementation steps contained therein as a supplement to the City's Comprehensive Plan. (32635)

REFERRED:

REREFERRED:

REPORTED BACK:

AUTHOR: Amy Scanlon, Secretary

ADOPTED:

POF:

DATED: March 3, 2014

ID NUMBER:

Members present were: Stu Levitan, Chair; Erica Fox Gehrig, Vice Chair; Christina Slattery, Jason Fowler, David McLean, Marsha Rummel, and Michael Rosenblum.

SUMMARY:

Jon Miskowski, representing Regent Neighborhood Association, registering in support and wishing to speak. Miskowski discussed the general overview of the Plan issues including increasing density, creating a walkable area with bicycle accommodations, traffic congestion, and maintaining the residential character.

Levitan asked if Miskowski was familiar with staff recommendations. Miskowski reviewed the staff report and explained that the staff recommendations were agreeable.

Darsi Foss, registering in support and wishing to speak. Foss explained that she supports the plan. Foss explained that the Plan balances the issues of diverse users and maintains the neighborhood character.

Tom Hirsch, registering in support and wishing to speak. Hirsch explained that he generally supports the Plan and the vision statements. Hirsch offers a few recommendations including not allowing development on the property line, the spaces between buildings are important in preserving the character of the area, intensify use and density on sites that are underutilized.

Gary Brown, representing the University of Wisconsin-Madison, registering neither in support nor opposition and wishing to speak. Brown explained that the University owns property on the east end of the corridor. Brown explained that the design of buildings along University Avenue across from the historic district were designed to curve and reduce height to allow appropriate views adjacent to the district. Brown explained the University would promote similar design considerations for future developments. Brown suggested that the Plan allow the University to continue to work with the neighborhood on each project. Brown explained that any future development would need to apply for rezoning and that allowing Campus Institutional Zoning would change the language on Page 45 to "3 stories/68 feet."

Sarah Canon, registering in support and wishing to speak. Canon explained that the neighborhood location and diversity are desirable. The Plan is the result of a long and involved process that strikes a balance between development with appropriate density and residential character.

Ald. Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, registering in support. Bidar-Sielaff explained that she referred the Plan to the Commission to allow the Commission to address any issues related to the historic district. She explained that the Plan balances the need for density, neighborhood diversity and residential issues. Bidar-Sielaff explained that she is concerned about traffic issues, the canyon effect, and height issues in the historic district.

Levitan asked what regulatory protections the Ordinance would provide for properties on the north side of University Avenue. Staff explained that those properties are not directly adjacent to any landmarks and would not be considered in the visually related area because they are outside of the historic district.

Bidar-Sielaff also addressed the comments from Mr. Golden related to the public process involved in the preparation of the Plan.

There was discussion about heights and the relationship of the Zoning to the historic district language. There was discussion about the staff recommendations.

Marcia Vandercook, registering in support but not wishing to speak.

Elizabeth Greene, representing Regent Neighborhood Association, registering in support but not wishing to speak.

ACTION:

A motion was made by Gehrig, seconded by Slattery, to recommend that the Plan Commission adopt the Plan with staff recommendations. The motion passed by voice vote/other.