

From: [Planning](#)
To: [Plan Commission Comments](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to proposed low income development at Oscar Meyer site
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 8:38:23 AM

From: Sara Tripalin <stripalin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 3:13 PM
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Opposition to proposed low income development at Oscar Meyer site

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Good Afternoon,

This is the first time I have exercised my opinion of any development in the city of Madison. I am a life-long Northside Madison resident. I write to you to express my grave concerns for the lack of consideration for the amount of low-income or subsidized housing developments that have been approved for our side of town in the last several years. First and foremost, there is a lack of notice and invitation to engage community members on these developments. All too often, a news story is the first indication of any project and typically by that point, the proposed development is already significantly down the road in consideration.

The changes already observed are increased police sirens/engagements, more loitering at local businesses, more traffic both cars and by foot, our local Walgreens and Pick n Save locking items or having to change the setup of the store to manage increased crime, open drug use and dealing at Warner Park. The list goes on.

I struggle to understand why we are not infusing some low-income with market rate units and thoughtfully planning for a vibrant engagement with the Oscar Meyer's platt for commercial, retail, restaurants, housing, green space etc. Why are we so quickly, without a grand vision, chopping up the O.M. platt? What a squandered resource and it rests along the "gateway" thoroughfare from our airport to our downtown.

There is clear evidence from many other cities nationwide that concentrating low-income residents into one area depresses the area, taxes the local public resources, is not a benefit to them and causes a strain on the established tax base of homeowners and business causing a consideration to move/sell.

This current development is being proposed by an out of state group. We have already seen the pitfalls of the Harmony at Grandview Commons Apartments on Milwaukee street. The residents were in danger, the community around the apartment in danger and the development transformed that part of the east side of Madison for the worse. With what real accountability to the developer?

You folks have a responsibility to all your residents to consider what a concentrated amount of such housing will do to the local culture, resources, schools, future of the community. I suspect many of you, if not all of you, are not Northside residents so when you make these decisions on behalf of us that are, you don't have to fill your gas, get your groceries, listen to sirens, walk past active drug use, bike on the path around homeless folks who are passed out, listen to gun shots go off on any given night, and navigate taxed school systems on a daily basis.

Please stop voting for these developments. They are changing rapidly this special area of Madison.

Sincerely,

Sara J Tripalin