

Dear Alderperson Ellingson:

We are neighbors (two buildings apart) of the Taqueria Guadalajara Restaurant. We share a common sidewalk at our building fronts (Park Street) and at the rear of our properties, an alley stretching from Lakeside Street to Lowell Street.

Our concerns with the restaurant operation are not specific to, but may be aggravated by, their serving of alcohol. Because their parking spaces are limited to just a few cars, the congestion in the alley has posed and is posing many problems. The alley is unpaved, and one lane only, and attempts by cars to pass side-by-side has resulted in damage to fences, landscaping, and other property. Many customers park on Lakeside Street and family groups walk through the alley to reach the rear of the restaurant while cars are attempting to travel both ways. There is no dedicated walk space or pedestrian paths. Large trucks, including trash removal, are required to enter the area, and then back, in reverse, through the alley, across the sidewalk, and onto Lakeside St., using only the driver's mirrors to avoid adjoining property, pedestrians and other vehicles. There is no speed limit enforcement through the alley, and it is a common sight to see cars traveling at speeds totally unsuitable for the narrow, congested alley.

One solution has been proposed, i.e., make the alley one-way. This was opposed vehemently by the property owners on Emerson, Lakeside, and Lowell streets. They prefer that the problem be limited to the Park Street properties and one unfortunate property owner on Lakeside Street, whose side lot line faces the alley.

To what extent the serving of alcohol contributes to the foregoing hard to say, but the potential for an accident, property or personal, is likely to be increased.

There is one item that should be specifically addressed at the meeting. They make no attempt whatever to recycle their bottles and cans. This is evidenced every time the trash removal vehicle raises the trash dumpster and it discharges into the trucks. The city-provided green recycling containers sit unused in their trash containment area.

Delores Annen, 1025 South Park Street.