



**Agenda Item #:** 3

**Project Title:** 619-699 W Mifflin Street - Development Adjacent to a Designated Madison Landmark (Wiedenbeck-Dobelin Warehouse - 619 W Mifflin; Milwaukee Road Depot - 640 W Washington) (District 4)

**Legistar File ID #:** 84154

**Prepared By:** Heather Bailey, Preservation Planner

**Members:** Present: Richard Arnesen, Edna Ely-Ledesma, Molly Harris, Katie Kaliszewski, and Jacob Morrison  
Excused: Ald. Amani Latimer Burris and Maurice Taylor

## Summary

*Burt Coffin, registering in support and wishing to speak*  
*Maddie Light, registering in opposition and wishing to speak*  
*Kurt Stege, registering in opposition and wishing to speak*  
*John Rolling, registering in opposition and wishing to speak*  
*Rick Chandler, registering in opposition and wishing to speak*  
*Linda Irving, registering in support and wishing to speak*  
*Linda Scott, registering in opposition and wishing to speak*  
*Jen Davel, registering in support and wishing to speak*  
*Allison Aldag, registering in support and available to answer questions*  
*Nicholas Davies, registering in support and not wishing to speak*

Bailey provided background information on the project.

Maddie Light, part of the Mifflin Neighborhood Association; Kurt Stege, John Rolling, and Rick Chandler, representing the Madison Trust for Historic Preservation; and Linda Scott, representing the Mifflin Neighborhood/Capitol Neighborhoods Inc. spoke in opposition.

Members of the project team, including Burt Coffin, Linda Irving, and Jen Davel were available to answer questions.

Jen Davel offered a perspective on the discussion of height, reminding the group that Madison's first skyscraper was the Churchill Building on the Capitol Square in 1915, which is nine stories tall. It stood the test of time and it is here now and part of our built environment. There are other similar buildings, including the Belmont Hotel that now houses the YWCA. They offered these examples to show that Madison has always been growing, and we don't want to be afraid of growth; growth in terms of height can be exciting, and it doesn't need to be a detriment to a neighboring landmark building.

Morrison said that he had similar comments regarding the chamfered corner as with the previous item. He recommended the chamfered corner be added in the rear where it is facing the Depot in an effort to create a more sympathetic and compatible appearance to the existing landmark next door.

## Action

**A motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Arnesen, to recommend to the Plan Commission and Urban Design Commission that the proposed new structure is not so large or visually intrusive as to adversely affect the historic character or integrity of the adjacent landmark, the Milwaukee Road Depot, at 640 W Washington Avenue. The**

**Landmarks Commission recommends that the rear corner of the building facing the Depot have a chamfered corner with a stepback at the third floor and above to create a more sympathetic and compatible appearance to the adjacent landmark. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**