

From: [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)
To: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: 10/05/2020 PC Meeting, Item 15, #61675 Comment
Date: October 05, 2020 6:47:35 AM

From: Nat Meyer <nbmeyer@wisc.edu>
Sent: Sunday, October 04, 2020 9:05 PM
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: 10/05/2020 PC Meeting, Item 15, #61675 Comment

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Dear members of the Madison Plan Commission,

Thank you for your continued work and commitment to Madison!

I am writing to convey some concerns with the Sweet Willow Pass apartment complex proposal (#61675, agenda item #15) on the October 5, 2020 meeting agenda.

It seems like a thoughtfully designed project, and I am glad to see some density being brought to a newly developing area, this can help reduce the emissions of single-family households, but I have a few sustainability concerns that I hope you can address with the developers.

1) The plan seems to in no clear way to address urban sprawl and car dependency, with no access to bus lines/ mass transit and no dedicated bike lanes or connection or investment in the current city biking infrastructure. As a soon to be graduating college student, I am going to be looking for housing out of downtown in the near future but would still like the option of biking since many people my age do not have cars, and I am concerned in general with the accessibility of new developments implication of and dependence on single-person/household vehicles.

2) Because of the grade change of the property they have proposed a 20-foot tall prairie grass hill and a combination of grass slope and a retaining wall. Do they intend to use wildlife beneficial vegetation and native plants to combat runoff and help groundwater penetration and filtration? Especially to offset the high water, energy, and chemical use of the pool.

3) It is unclear what Cascade development is doing to intentionally appeal to the Madison Sustainability plan and reduce environmental impact, from CO2 emissions in construction materials to energy use within the building for the next 30-50 years. What are the developments intentions for energy efficiency (gas and fossil fuel-powered electric), EV charging stations, and water management plans?

Best,

Nat Meyer, of the 350 Madison Community Climate Solutions Team
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