

From: [Punt, Colin](#)
To: [Plan Commission Comments](#)
Subject: FW: For Your Consideration
Date: Friday, March 20, 2026 3:43:33 PM

ID 90803

Colin Punt, AICP (he, him, his)
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From: Dannika K Debertin <dkdebertin@madison.k12.wi.us>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2026 3:31 PM
To: Punt, Colin <CPunt@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Anne C Wilcox Panzer <acwilcox@madison.k12.wi.us>
Subject: For Your Consideration

You don't often get email from dkdebertin@madison.k12.wi.us. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello, Mr Collin Punt. I am reaching out to you regarding the new construction project proposal happening in the near future on Mineral Point Road.

My name is Dani Debertin, and I am an attending senior at Vel Phillips Memorial High School. I am currently taking an astronomy class, and I have an interest in space as well as meteorology.

I would like to ask that you consider the lights you will be using at this restaurant. A drive-through window, as well as a light-up sign outside the restaurant itself, produces unnecessary light pollution.

An increase in light pollution can have negative impacts on both our mental and physical health. When we have light pollution, it blots out the stars in the night sky, and not seeing the night sky can make us lose our sense of awe and wonder, which in turn leads to a decrease in creativity and an increase in depression.

I am aware that having a bright sign out front of a restaurant helps bring in guests, and not having one can be detrimental to the restaurant's revenue. Instead, I am asking that you add a tinted film to the drive-through windows and less bright exterior lights and signs.

Thank you for your time and thoughts on this matter. While it may be strange to have such a request like this, I do hope you take this into consideration while planning this restaurant on Mineral Point Road. I have lived in Madison my whole life and have watched it grow and expand into what it is now, I have also sadly watched the night sky and stars fade from view.

Best Regards, Dani Debertin, Vel Phillips Memorial Senior

From: [Alicia Lyu](#)
To: [Plan Commission Comments](#)
Subject: Legistar File 90803
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2026 6:19:21 PM

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Dear Plan Commissioners,

As much as I look forward to having Rising Cane's on the west side, I have to express my concern regarding this project.

This auto-centric drive-thru commercial-only project is everything opposite to the West Area Plan adopted in 2024 and the [Housing Forward Initiative](#) passed several months ago. Most notably,

- It is only 5-minute walk away from a BRT station.
- It locates right by the Mineral Point bike path.
- It locates in an RMX area that allows max. 16 stories.

If a project like this passed the Plan Commission, all those plannings would be meaningless. And Plan Commission would be inconsistent in its approval standard, should they ever deny a project in the future for not abiding by city planning.

On a different note, I invite the developers to rethink the sustainability of the drive-thru model in the West Towne Mall area. As this area redevelops as planned, it would become a mixed-use neighborhood with 8- to 16-story buildings. Once those future residents become your primary customers, do you still want to optimize for people who live far away and cannot get around without a car? More and more businesses are fleeing the West Towne Mall for Hilldale—a modern, mixed use, walkable neighborhood. Does Rising Cane's want to hold onto the auto-centric model and die with the West Towne Mall? Please don't make such a short-sighted investment for your own sake.

Thank you for reading my comment.

Alicia