

From: William Whisenant [<mailto:mcperf@tds.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2011 3:28 PM

To: Clear, Mark; Simon, Debra; Gromacki, Joseph

Cc: Jeff Turner; Noel Radomski; Herman Felstehausen; wsjopine@madison.com; Soglin, Paul; jtarr@isthmus.com; Clear, Mark

Subject: TIF #41opposition

William Whisenant
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August 23, 2011

Re: Opposition to the TIF #41 district
To: Alder Clear and Board of Estimates members

I oppose the establishment of TIF District #41 in general and specifically that it extends beyond the westernmost boundaries of the Erdman parcel.

The extension of the boundaries of the TIF district to areas not under consideration for redevelopment allows the exertion of undue pressure by developers on businesses located within those areas. This pressure comes in the form of possible private condemnation of property by a private developer. The undue pressure has already been exerted by a developer in the destruction of customer access to a common drive in the hopes of extinguishing the usefulness of my parcel. To allow any more leverage at this time would mean the destruction of a business at this location for over 33 years and damage to other businesses here since 1959 (Spring Harbor Animal Hospital) and 1976 (Midas).

I urge you, at the least, to stop the TIF boundary at the westernmost edge of the Erdman parcel and then I would look at supporting the establishment of the district.

The secretive nature of the commissioning of the blight study used in establishing this district is yet another example of a lack of transparency in the process that favors a large developer with money and staff over neighborhoods and small businesses in those neighborhoods that the city has adopted.

I can never muster the resources of a Krupp or a Lenhart, but isn't it still normal protocol to have the neighbors and businesses, no matter what their size, supporting plans such as this before they are adopted? I do not know of such support at this time, as seen at various neighborhood meetings, yet approval of this is urged without complete data or information as basic as a traffic study. I have had to go to court to attempt to save my business before and despite the stress and expense, if forced to do so again, I will.

Please stop the TIF district in its present configuration!

Respectfully,

William Whisenant,
owner of Motorcycle Performance and 5205 University Ave.