

**From:** john steines [mailto:jsteines@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2012 3:29 PM  
**To:** Martin, Al; Murphy, Brad  
**Cc:** Rummel, Marsha; Verveer, Mike; Mayor; King, Steve; erics@cows.org; michael.heifetz@deancare.com; hiwayman@chorus.net; bacantrell@charter.net; avandrzejews@wisc.edu; tonyalhn@aol.com; jfinnmore@madison.k12.wi.us  
**Subject:** 100 block of state street

Hello,

the folks documenting and working on preservation of the 100 block of state street (Keep State Street Real) have done a superb job documenting and explaining the importance of an intact 100 block of state street to the fabric of the neighborhood and the city as a whole. **Historic buildings become more valuable over time - if we let them, and State Street is unique.** Keep State Street Real's visioning of the 100 block into an urban center that benefits the overture has many strong points while the modern arc/garden/private space is an unnecessary and mundane slash through the history of the city - to what end?

**Most of us support innovative re-use and creative new design that builds on the historic and doesn't efface it.** Please see that the 100 block of State Street is treated in a manner that is respectful of the community at large, not just premier Overture patrons. The 'village at large' needs to be included in the conversation and success. The city may manage to overcome some of the negative effect of the Overture process and result by a respectful re-design and re-use of the 100 block in such a way that amplifies the historic components. Yes, some will never be convinced. Overture must be made to work in context of where and what it is. Changing the context will not help overture. **Building on the contrast between the building history that surrounds Overture and Overture itself must be seen as a benefit to Overture.** In the long range, this will have a better end effect on Overture than plopping a modern arc and private open space onto the scene. Please do not make a fatal mistake by multiplying the errors of the past.

Thank you. John Steines, 3327 Chicago Ave, Madison, WI. 53714