

To whom it may concern,

My name is Sam Katz. I love the Monroe St. neighborhood. I live at Arboretum Cohousing, (1137 Erin St.), am a YSP and Edgewood College alum. I am writing because I believe the patrons of this new tavern will pose a hazard to me.

Prior to moving to Arboretum Cohousing two and a half years ago, I lived on Jefferson St. I consider the Monroe St. area to be my neighborhood still. I attend YSP performances regularly.

Although life has blessed me with many opportunities such as the roles I played at YSP, it has also blessed me with challenges such as cerebral palsy, or diminished walking ability/gait. Because of this, I am actually frequently mistaken for drunk by people under the influence and people under the influence tend to gravitate towards me.

(Again, I do walk everywhere, just slower, and with a non-normal gait.) I believe that people under the influence will pose a hazard to me, and will change the character and personality of Monroe St.

More importantly, one of the things that makes me so proud of YSP is, in the words of my friend Erin, also an alum of YSP, its ability to keep people safe. We do not allow drugs on premises, or people to use drugs or alcohol on our premises, or during the duration of their education with us. Nevertheless, people are tempted, and Richard and Anne have had to let people go when they make unwise choices.

Please reject the license for liquor to this establishment as it will undoubtedly make YSP and its surrounding environs less safe for our young people.

Best,

--Sam