

Eken Park Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 7162
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7162

March 7th, 2022

Members of the City of Madison Plan Commission,

As the elected officers of the Eken Park Neighborhood Association, in accordance with our stated purpose per EPNA bylaws, and with the approval of voting members, we hereby submit the following comment regarding the proposal to create section 28.022-00540 of the Madison General Ordinances to change the zoning of property located at 1010 North Street, 12th Aldermanic District, from TR-C4 (Traditional Residential-Consistent 4) District to PR (Parks and Recreation) District.

We would like to express our support for this change in zoning for the following reasons:

- East Madison Little League (EMLL) Field, formerly known as Oscar Mayer Field, located at 1010 North Street, (“the field”) has been a staple in our community for decades. It is our hope that this zoning change will increase the likelihood that the field will be preserved in its current form throughout the redevelopment process and well into the future. If EMLL, due to market forces or redevelopment, is forced to find a new home for practice, we propose that it would fundamentally change the character of the neighborhood. It is our opinion that it is unlikely that any alternative location would be as convenient for EMLL participants and members.
- Although the EPNA recognizes the critical nature of our housing shortage, and sympathizes with the need for more housing, especially housing that is affordable for all, the importance of preserving greenspace should also be prioritized as we believe it is essential to the quality of life for current and future residents of this area.
- Many members of EPNA have expressed concerns with local stormwater management. Flooding of property and natural watershed pollution have become increasing concerns, especially when considering the future impacts of climate change. Rezoning the field to PR will likely preserve some pervious area, which can help to mitigate the aforementioned concerns.

On behalf of the members of the Eken Park Neighborhood Association, we look forward to hearing your decision on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Officers of the Eken Park Neighborhood Association
Cooper Talbot - EPNA Co-chair
Charlie McNulty - EPNA Co-chair
Jim Wold - EPNA Treasurer
Zack Brewer - EPNA Secretary