

From: Andy McGuire [mailto:andrewmcguire78@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, September 19, 2011 9:51 PM

To: Cnare, Lauren; Resnick, Scott; Murphy, Brad; Parks, Timothy; Mautz, Susan

Subject: Common Council: St. Francis Site Demolition & Development

Dear Aldermen and City of Madison staff,

I am an active voter and East Side resident and I am writing to voice concerns about the residential development proposed at 1001 University Ave. next to Luther Memorial Church. I have been a member of the Church both as a UW student and now as a professional in government and I am growing increasingly worried about the negative impacts yet another high rise building will have on the immediate neighborhood. While I understand the developers mean to present a balanced housing solution, I don't believe they have fully recognized--or will have to endure--these negative impacts to the scenic block on which Luther Memorial resides:

- **Aesthetic Degradation:** you have already heard about the shadow and light implications of any structure being built, even if the developer is trying to minimize them. Please consider that while there are many wonderful congregations across this state, there is simply no architectural and spiritual space equivalent to the block on which Luther Memorial sits. This green space and its few current buildings provide the kind of visual respite that complements our University. It is what caught my eye as a new grad student looking for a church home.
- **Acute Congestion:** while we would welcome the hundreds of new students and their guests to the block, the simple problem of finding space for both living and parking presents a serious challenge to the sustainability of our congregation. For over 100 years, our church has developed as a community that brings together students and members from across Dane County. As an East Side resident, it is essential that we are able to access this campus area for services and meetings, and remain accessible to be a viable church home for new families, elderly individuals, and students alike. Few locations like this remain.
- **Troubling Precedent:** of course, our city has many challenges in balancing historic and aesthetic space with modern residential and commercial needs. Ceding a space like that next to Luther Memorial sets another precedent that developments for temporary residents are more desirable than sacred, historic environments. I think Madison is better than that. We're different. And that's why I've made my home here.

As an analyst for the state legislature, I keenly appreciate the policy challenges in front of you. Please consider these points in making your important decisions. Thank you for taking the time to represent us. I will be in attendance at the meeting Tuesday to see how this topic is resolved.

Sincerely,

Andy & Laura McGuire
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Madison