As long-time Madison West-Side property owners and residents, we are writing in support of the project proposal for 4506 and 4514 Verona Road, City of Madison, Wisconsin. Over the last 20 years, we have resided in, raised our children in, and owned property in Districts 7, 10, and 20 – giving us a deep connection to the area. We patronize many of the local stores and restaurants, as well as parks and neighborhood pools, and wish to speak to this from personal experience.

In 2020, when we were looking for a new home for our local business, the Feiler's Supper Club was on the market for sale. It had been vacant and listed for sale on the market continuously for four years with no success. We live in Greentree, swam at Ridgewood Pool and our kids went to school at Toki, so we frequently visited the area, both by car and by bike. This corner represented an opportunity to work near where we live and where we already frequent a lot of the stores. For us, it was a perfect fit.

When remodeling the building, we made design choices based on how we intended to use the space. We had biked the trail many times over the years with our kids as a great way to get downtown or access the Arboretum, so we built a full shower in one of the bathrooms. That way, we could use the path for exercise during the day or commuting. We invested \$10,000 into new concrete – including a patio out back.

As self-employed people, we work long hours, so the building has been our home away from home. We are often there from before 8:00 a.m. until after 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. Because of that, we also frequent the restaurants and stores nearby on foot. We use the underpass to access Taqueria El Jalapeno and El Panzon for lunch, we have keys copied at Dorn, and we buy produce and fresh meat from the Mercado Santa Maria.

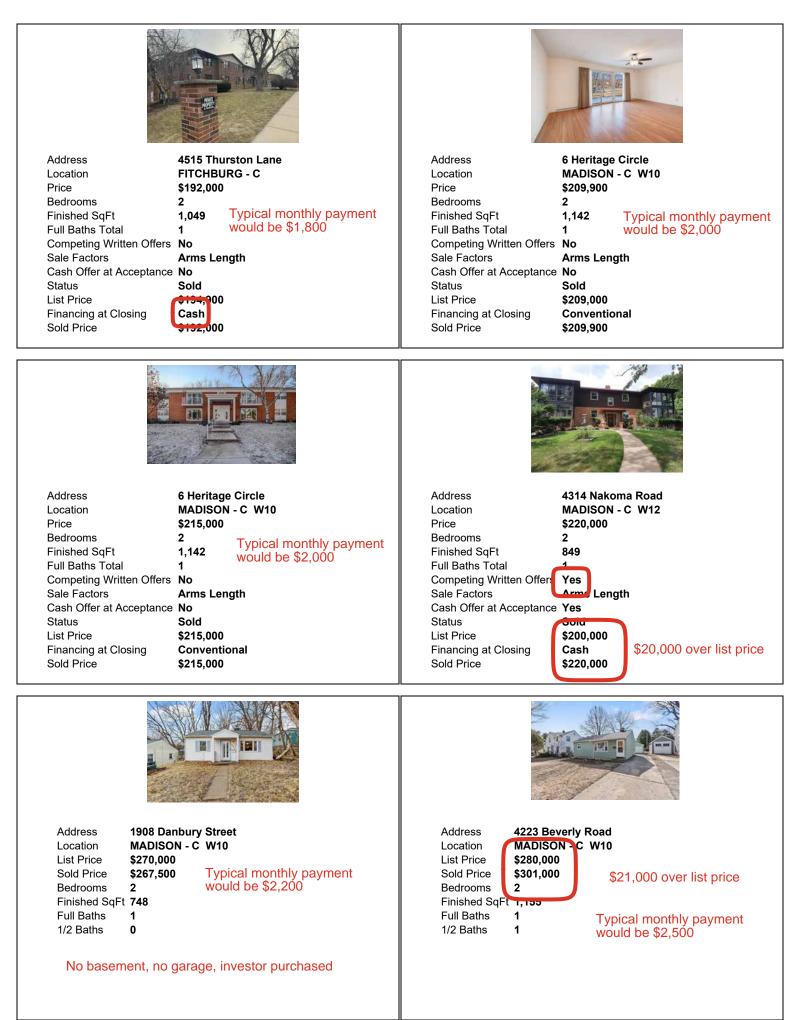
Although it looks intimidating, the Verona and Beltline interchange is quite orderly with push-button-activated walk signals, and accessing that side of the frontage road is reasonably safe, thanks to the relatively low amount of traffic coming around that corner. Most traffic is diverted into the parking lots for Goodwill and Home Depot and never makes it to the curve. The underpass to the Dunns Marsh Neighborhood is well-kept, lit, and spacious, so it is also a pretty convenient way to access the other side of Verona Road. I understand that neighbors have raised concerns about air quality and noise from the traffic. Traffic sounds may have a greater impact on this site than in other, more remote areas of the city. Still, on our back patio, one can absolutely sit and have a conversation while having lunch, and we have no special screening from the Beltline. Inside, the sound is at a normal conversational level, and we don't have any extra sound insulation there either. With regard to air quality, as a person who had asthma, I can say I have not noticed any significant difference on this site than at other urban locations around town, and we've been here 5 years now.

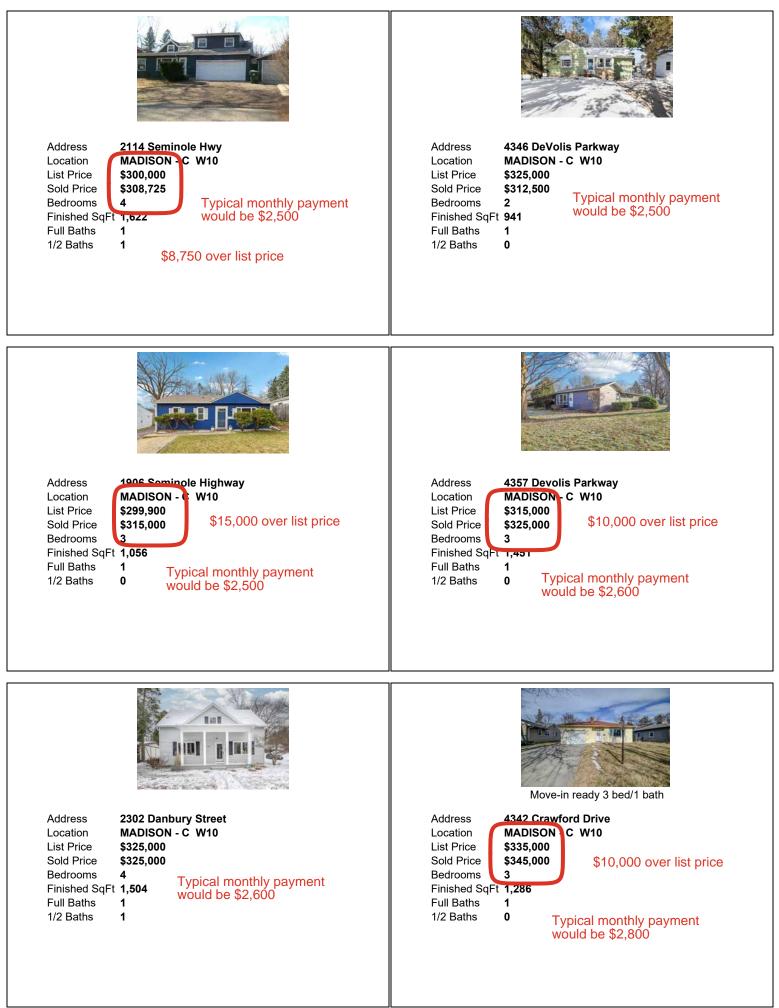
As a professional involved in homeownership for over 25 years and a member of several housing related committees and organizations such as: the Affordable Housing and EOC Committee for RASCW – renamed DEI Committee (2000-current), Dane County Regional Housing Strategy Group (2023-current), RASCW Board of Directors (2020-2024), Government Affairs Committee (2020-current), ACRE Program (2023-2024). I am well aware of the pros and cons of different types of housing, locations, and all the various programs available to provide tenant assistance, financing and home-buyer downpayment programs. Madison residents need a variety of choices. Right now, homes in the areas immediately adjacent to this site are selling quickly at a premium. To successfully buy a home there, one needs capital for a down payment, strong credit, and a household income of over \$100,000 - \$150,000 a year to have any shot at a home or even a small condo. Even those fortunate enough to fit the description are often outbid by cash offers from investors. We think this project will fit a much-needed gap in the market.

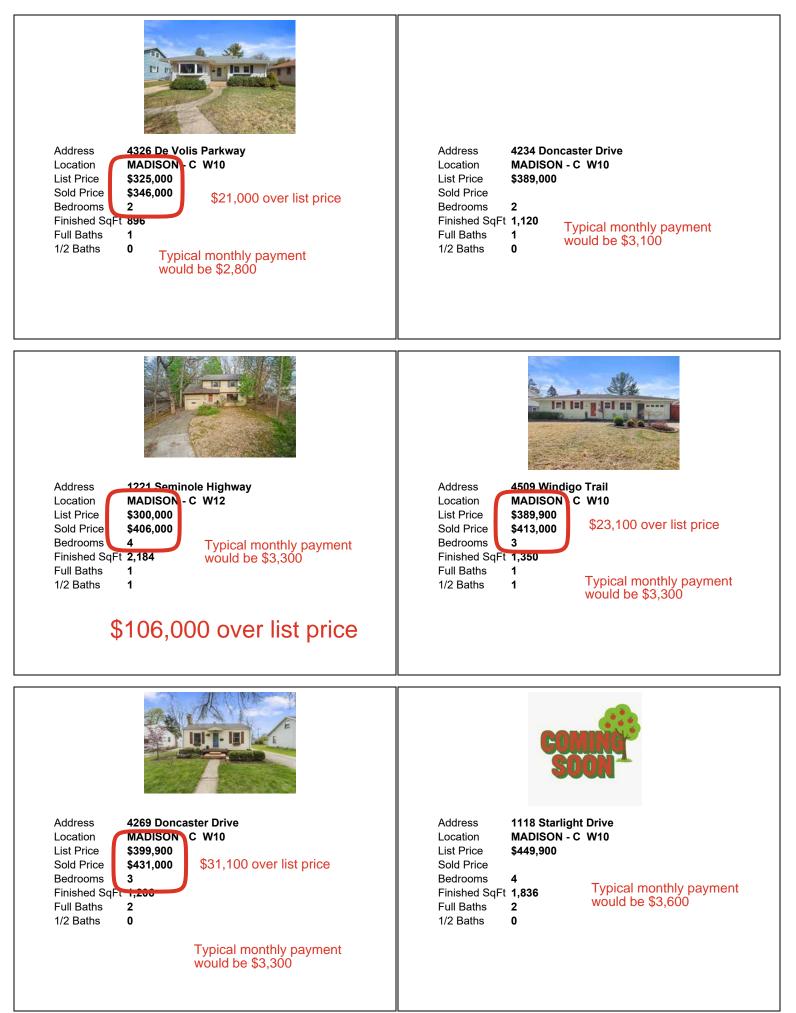
Jean Armendariz-Kerr, resident 6409 Romford Road Madison WI 53711

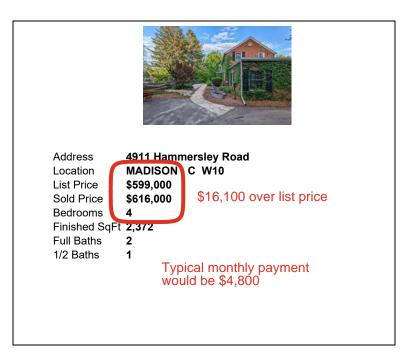
And

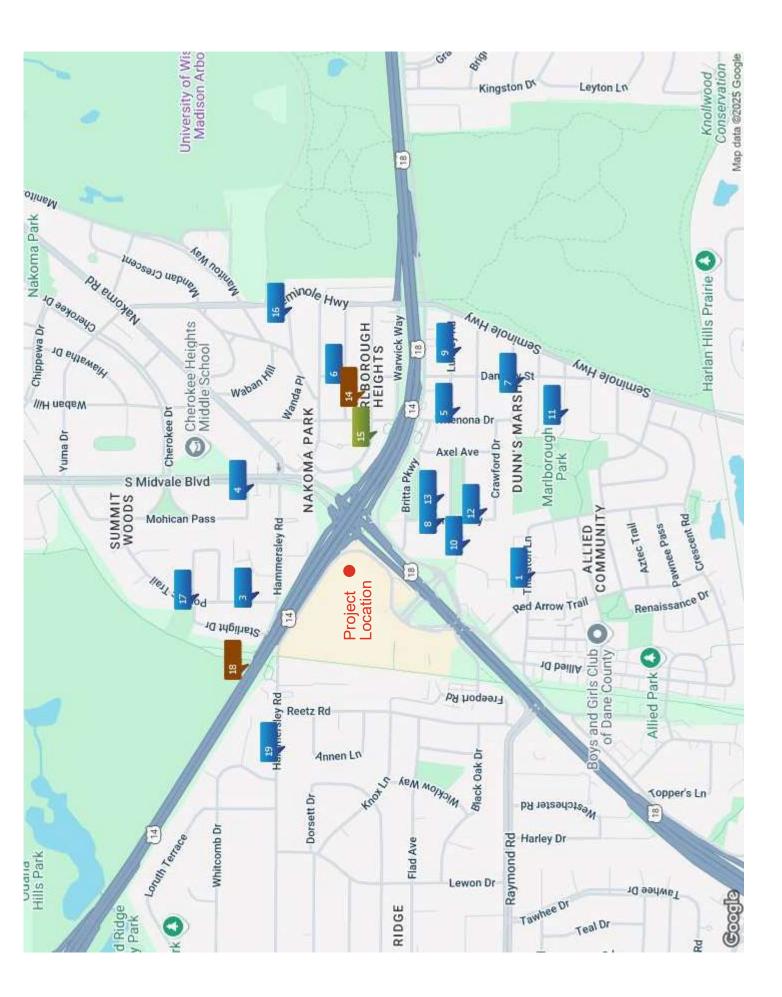
Current owner of one of the two properties in question 4506 Verona Road Madison WI 53711











From:	Mary Pfister
To:	Plan Commission Comments
Subject:	Verona Road apartment development
Date:	Friday, June 20, 2025 11:39:14 AM

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I want to provide the commission with some additional information from the DOT about plans for the intersection where this apartment is planned to be built. These factors MUST be considered prior to approving the building, the City of Madison did not include this in their write up. This information came directly from the DOT.

I reached out to the DOT about this interchange and the future plans, given that the traffic at this interchange has increased greatly in the last 5 years. While they **currently do not** have any plans for land acquisition for this site, the State **has just begun the planning for the next phase for 18/151-12/14** interchange. This will take a number of years to complete.

The DOT says in looking at this interchange their goal is to get the exits to be free flowing, so the traffic doesn't back up on the beltline. Some of the things they are considering (even for a temporary solution some of these are on the table) - adding a lane(s), moving some of the **local traffic off the exit onto the frontage road** (he even said they are aware of the increase of traffic that would put at that location), raising or tunneling the exits. All of these solutions will eventually mean the State will need to acquire land - and that land is going to come from the exact location Lincoln Ave wants to build. The DOT indicated that since the study just started, it could be 5 years before they have the full plan, since they have to do all kinds of environmental, traffic, funding and neighborhood studies prior to completing a plan.

In addition, the last phase of improvements (completed in 2019) was projected to support the traffic needs until **2030**. However, he indicated that the **traffic flow already exceeds the projected 2030 numbers NOW**. He indicated that he only sees the number of cars increasing annually due to all the growth in Belleville/Verona/Mt. Horeb/and beyond. Given there is no regional transportation model and no plans by the city to build single family homes (mayor and council LOVE apartments), it means that the traffic will indeed only increase through this interchange, meaning that intersection will see **300K cars** in the next few years.

Building residential housing at this location is not just unwise, it is **Dangerous.** The traffic flow on the frontage road is already very high, and travels at higher speeds than

safe for pedestrians. Not to mention that proposed apartment sits on a blind curve. If the State moves local traffic off the beltline onto that frontage road (even as a temporary solution) volume could increase 10 fold, right in front of the building. Not to mention the increased airborne pollution and noise that will come with that volume of traffic. Just because the State doesn't have a firm plan now, does not mean you should not consider the future DOT needs. Traffic and noise are only going to get worse at this site, not BETTER.

This site is not suitable for residential housing - PERIOD. What is worse, the Planning Commission and City of Madison are telling the lessor among us, this is the BEST they will do for them. It is cruel and inhumane to approve this site.

Thank you. Mary Pfister

Colin Punt, AICP (he, him, his) Planner - City of Madison Planning Division cpunt@cityofmadison.com |608.243.0455

From: Justin Rundle <jdrundle926@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 7:10 PM
To: Punt, Colin <CPunt@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: 4506-4514 Verona Rd

You don't often get email from jdrundle926@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello Colin - I wanted to share a few thoughts on the 4506-4514 development proposal.

If the project moves forward, I encourage the developer to include as much landscaping, and trees as possible. If you look at this area via satellite view on Google Maps...you'll see this location is a concrete jungle. It would be nice if any new development can incorporate as many greenspace features of nearby neighborhoods as possible.

I also encourage the developer to incorporate brick into higher floors of the development. It is true there have been many residential developments along the beltline in recent years. It's just pleasant to the eye as you travel along to see brick buildings, rather than siding.

Thanks for considering, Justin Rundle