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Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 3:45 PM
To: Parks, Timothy
Cc: Murphy, Brad; supplea@hammescosports.com
Subject: Temporary Structures

As you know, prior to the Plan Commission meeting January 10th, I was able to have an elevation prepared showing site lines from the Langdon/Wisconsin corner to the lake. The point of the exercise was to point out that a temporary structure or tent (think wedding tent) could be designed that would not ever restrict the view of Lake Mendota. As we all know, obstructions to the view could disappoint the neighbors and the general public in that one of the functions of the public terrace was to improve at least the depth of what has become known as the view corridor. As you can see from the new drawings, a 16 foot tent could seriously, but unnecessarily, damage the view.

Having a little more time, I called Madison Party Rentals (221-3866, manager Marty) to learn more about wedding tents. What I found out is that at least the wedding tents that Madison Party Rentals sells, all have a height of 16 feet. They are called "frame tents" and are 20 feet wide and 20, 30, 40, or more feet long. They will come in and install a 20x40 foot tent for \$410. I didn't get into it, but my impression would be that if a longer period of rental was negotiated, that that price on a per day basis would drop. The reason that is important is because there would be an incentive for a hotel manager to keep the tent up in order to achieve the lower price.

I also talked to the tent person about how the tent would be anchored. When they put one on a parking lot, they sometimes drive stakes into blacktop, or they can use water filled barrels if they have to. I asked him about permanent tethering that would be built into the building designed to accommodate a tent or tents of different sizes. He thought that would be a great idea.

As you can see, a special built tent that could be as high as 13.6 feet on the Capitol side, going down as little as 8 feet if the tent was going to have a 73 foot width. Obviously, that is way bigger than anything anyone would need, particularly with the ball room immediately adjacent. I would estimate that a special purpose tent could have a height of approximately 12.5 feet.

The objective of all of this is to not have any conflict between the neighborhood and the general public over the view. The tent that I am envisioning could remain in place almost indefinitely because it could be view neutral.

Sincerely,
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