

From: [Amber Bartz](#)
To: [Plan Commission Comments](#)
Subject: Agenda Item: 26,27,28
Date: Monday, August 29, 2022 5:32:01 PM

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

Attention, a message was circulating among many people who care about this with the wrong agenda number. Please recognize any comments about Agenda item "72775" as Agenda Item: 26,27,28, as folks were not given the correct agenda number.

For Meeting Choose: Plan Commission: 8/29/2022 5:30pm

Agenda Item: 26,27,28

I oppose this agenda item.

Madison needs a roller rink! Especially this area of town. I implore you not to take away the only roller rink left in Madison. The nearest rink is nearly an hour outside of Madison. How can you take away something productive for kids to do? It's not a secret that there is not much else over there to do.

Roller skating brings community and a positive, safe outlet, as well as exercise. Roller skating is for everyone, no matter what color your skin is, where you come from, or what age you are. Roller skating is for families, single people, friends, date nights, birthday parties. The joy that roller skating brings is endless.

Fast Forward

Fast Forward also houses another business 608 Skate (Skate Shop), as well as providing community and an establishment for roller hockey, and the roller derby teams in our city (Madison Roller Derby, Mad Calves Junior Roller Derby, Wisconsin United Roller Derby). If you absolutely insist on taking away the establishment that facilitates the rollerskating community in Madison, I must insist that you provide a replacement roller skating rink. If Chicago can have a roller skating establishment through their parks system, there is no reason why Madison can't.

<https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks-facilities/roller-skating-rink>
Milwaukee does too!

Thank you for hearing my opposition!

From: [lindsay rob1](#)
To: [Plan Commission Comments](#)
Subject: Fast Forward Skate Center
Date: Monday, August 29, 2022 4:43:59 PM

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

Greetings,

I would like to ask that the closing and demolishing of Fast Forward be delayed until the Madison area has another roller rink. Roller skating is a very popular pass time especially for families in winter. With our very limited dry days in Wisconsin it's important to have an indoor place available.

Fast Forward is also the practice space for Madison Roller Derby, Wisconsin United Roller Derby WURD, a roller hockey league and 608 Skate Shop. Closing its doors will negatively effect hundreds of people. That number is not including the children and families that use the roller rink.

I understand Madison needs affordable housing.

However I'm hoping the city can help with finding a location and perhaps allocate funds to build or repurpose another building dedicated to skating.

I myself spend 4 to 8 hours in my roller skates per week. It keeps me strong and makes me happy. Fast Forward isn't perfect but it is important.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lindsay Slug Robl

From: [Amber Bartz](#)
To: [Plan Commission Comments](#)
Subject: Agenda Item: 72775 - oppose comment
Date: Monday, August 29, 2022 3:07:01 PM

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

For Meeting Choose: Plan Commission: 8/29/2022 5:30pm

Agenda Item: 72775

I oppose this agenda item.

Madison needs a roller rink! Especially this area of town. I implore you not to take away the only roller rink left in Madison. The nearest rink is nearly an hour outside of Madison. How can you take away something productive for kids to do? It's not a secret that there is not much else over there to do.

Roller skating brings community and a positive, safe outlet, as well as exercise. Roller skating is for everyone, no matter what color your skin is, where you come from, or what age you are. Roller skating is for families, single people, friends, date nights, birthday parties. The joy that roller skating brings is endless.

Fast Forward also houses another business 608 Skate (Skate Shop), as well as providing community and an establishment for roller hockey, and the roller derby teams in our city (Madison Roller Derby, Mad Calves Junior Roller Derby, Wisconsin United Roller Derby),

If you absolutely insist on taking away the establishment that facilitates the rollerskating community in Madison, I must insist that you provide a replacement roller skating rink.

If Chicago can have a roller skating establishment through their parks system, there is no reason why Madison can't.

<https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks-facilities/roller-skating-rink>

Thank you for hearing my comment.

-Amber

Hello Plan Commission.

I'm opposed in the demolition of the building that currently houses the Fast Forward Skating Center at 4649 Verona Road.

Please consider the needs of the residents, our city, and the neighborhood, over the needs of the developers. The Fast Forward establishment provides much needed family entertainment to a racially diverse neighborhood.

While there could be many lots this apartment building could be built on, there is only one EXISTING skate center in Madison. The next nearest skate center is about an hour drive away. Fast Forward is a Madison cultural institution; it has been around for decades and can be very successful. This building does NOT NEED to be demolished. The city staff report states that there are no known structural issues. "older building with no specific structural issues" [Page 3 Staff Report]. Please vote NO.

I agree that we need more affordable housing. Affordable housing is a complex topic. There are hundreds and hundreds of new apartment units that have been and are being built in Madison. Why aren't these built as affordable housing units? Why choose this location situated between two busy highways of the Beltline and Verona Road?

Some other notes:

- 1) The new proposed "Mixed Use" building is 98.64% residential and 1.36% other. It is not very mixed in my opinion.
- 2) The proposed residential apartment building does not appear to have any playground, play area (basketball court etc.), or recreational opportunities nearby. Given that a recreational activity will be destroyed if this building is built, shouldn't the new building house one such resource as a replacement?
- 3) In my opinion the demolition notice signs were not conspicuous to the general public as they were not visible from the street. One sign was partially hidden by weeds and the other sign was posted in the parking lot. The lack of signs may have hindered notice by interested parties in the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Layne Larson
City of Madison Resident
Layne_Larson@yahoo.com

From: [Mark Wells](#)
To: [Plan Commission Comments](#)
Subject: Oppose Plan Commission agenda item #26 Demo of Fast Forward
Date: Monday, August 29, 2022 11:03:52 AM

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

Please do not demolish the skate center. It is the only one we can go to and a great asset. Our family has gone there for years, and we had my daughter's birthday party there. It is one of the most diverse places in Madison!

--
Mark C. Wells
10 Celia Court
Madison, WI 53711