
From: John Sobotik [soby1@tds.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 11:29 PM
To: Clear, Mark
Subject: Liquor Store

Dear Mark:

I am writing to express my opposition to Lakhvir Kaur's application for a license to operate a full-service liquor store at 6640 Mineral Point Road in the Clock Tower center. I would appreciate it if you would relay my opposition to the common council. I was unaware of the Alcohol License Review Committee hearing or I would have appeared at that hearing to oppose the application. Unfortunately, I have a county meeting I am required to attend and make a presentation to on the night of April 16, so I will not be at the Council meeting.

Liquor stores bring crime to a neighborhood. As part of my job, I wind up sitting through lots of presentations by the Tavern League and policy wonks about alcohol. I am also involved in reviewing laws related to drunk driving on a regular basis. There is no question about the correlation between liquor stores, liquor advertising, and crime. Even things as innocuous as liquor signing in a neighborhood correlates to increased crime. Several studies have shown that simply prohibiting window signs advertising liquor will reduce crime. We have no need of crime increases in Parkwood or Woodland Hills.

We already have several places licensed to sell beer in the neighborhood of the Grand Canyon and Mineral Point intersection. Clock Tower plaza is within walking distance of Memorial High School. Many kids are in the plaza for pizza or other lunch foods on a daily basis. They do not need a liquor store there.

There is no need for a liquor store in the neighborhood. It will not bring worthwhile jobs to the neighborhood, but will bring increased access to a common drug -- alcohol -- to teens in the neighborhood. It will also increase the incidence of drunk driving in the neighborhood. I would urge the Council to reject the application.

I would appreciate your filing these comments with the council on the 16th. I regret being unable to attend the hearing in person.

Thank you.

John Sobotik
830 Pebble Beach Drive
Madison