

Dear Mr. Clear and Board of Estimates,

My understanding of the formation of a TID is to help developers and businesses to do projects that wouldn't get done and benefit the public good. Proposed district #41 does not do this. It is also my understanding that any public money and the plans to use public money should be an open and transparent process. Again this has not been happening and has been shrouded in a haze as to what is being done and why.

For the following reasons I am opposed to the formation of this district:

1. The affected property owners were not notified of a pending blight study commissioned by the city.
2. The same property owners were not notified of the results of the study when it was finished.
3. Property owners were not given time to examine and comment on the blight study.
4. The proposed TID project plan didn't include the well head protection area in the plan. The city TIF coordinator said all department heads had signed off on the plan. If the Water Utility head had seen the plan why didn't he point out the plan didn't include the well head protection area in the plan for well # 14?
5. The Planning Commission was told of the omission of well head protection area, which then voted to insert the well protection area into the plan. You have now added a major consideration to this plan, why wasn't the public notified and again given a chance to comment on the impact of this?
6. Assistant city attorney Anne Zellhoeffer signed off on this document as proscribed by state law on July 14, 2011 that it was true and factual. Shouldn't she be given the changed document and asked to review it and again sign it?
7. TIF money may be used on a project where a proper and industry standard Phase One and two wasn't done. So will the city or taxpayers be liable when Well 14 is threatened?

The State of Wisconsin has repeatedly stated a TID shouldn't be entered into lightly and all due diligence should be exercised. The city of Madison on this proposal has tried to fast track this for one developer who doesn't seem to get the fact this is a unique situation where both our lakes and our drinking water is at stake. The problems associated with this project are both numerous and being well documented. As both a resident and business owner in the affected area I feel strongly about these and other problems and it is up to this body to fix them now in a timely manner before it is too late. There are other avenues that can be taken as witnessed by the Edgewater project but only as a last step in being heard by unresponsive public officials.

