

From: [Lisa MacKinnon](#)
To: [licensing](#); [Vidaver, Regina](#); katterholt@amundsendavislaw.com
Subject: Item 20, legistar 88503 application for liquor license to 7-Eleven at 2216 University Avenue
Date: Thursday, October 2, 2025 12:15:36 AM

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To the Alcohol Licence Review Committee, Alder Vidaver, and Attorney Atterholt:

I live several blocks from the intersection where this 7-Eleven is located at 2216 University Avenue and I pass by it on foot, bike, bus, or car almost daily. I am writing to voice my opposition to the granting of an expanded liquor license for this 7-Eleven store for the following reasons:

- 1) Over the last year or two, the neighborhood has noticed an uptick in ambulance and police incident calls to the parking lot of the 7-Eleven/gas station at this site. I am not aware of the nature of those calls, but the increase in occurrences has been remarkable. I don't think the addition of more alcohol sales into this context--especially on a stretch of street (Old University) that already has a dedicated and long-standing local liquor store (Miller's Liquor) just one block away from the 7-Eleven, as well as several bars, restaurants, and cafes that sell alcohol on this stretch--is advisable or desired by neighbors.
- 2) This site is directly adjacent to a housing complex and a behavioral health clinic (Anesis Therapy) that house and serve vulnerable populations, including young children and teenagers. It is not uncommon to see pedestrians, including the young residents, hanging out and recreating adjacent to and sometimes in the parking lot of the 7-Eleven. Further drawing additional access to grab-and-go alcohol in this already alcohol-dense corridor, especially directly next to this residential complex with young children and teens, would be a poor decision.
- 3) The parking lot of this 7-Eleven has become a regular gathering place for large groups of motorcyclists who start their evening riding in and around the neighborhood (Campus Dr. and University Ave.) from this spot. Some of these joyrider gatherings have been associated with speeding and excessive noise (many other drivers through the neighborhood also speed, which has been reported repeatedly to the MPD and city officials). Providing another opportunity at this location to add more alcohol to the mix seems unwise and could exacerbate the speeding and reckless driving we already encounter in our neighborhood on a daily basis.
- 4) I have entered and made purchases at this 7-Eleven over the years when I have stopped for

gas at this station (I believe it used to be another chain). The people who currently work there are friendly, but the atmosphere of this 7-Eleven itself--its lighting, upkeep, general quality, and surroundings with litter strewn about--has become increasingly seedy and unwelcoming. I have been in the store when clearly intoxicated people (customers? neighbors?) were hanging out inside and making unsolicited comments to other customers. Will adding "a selection of wine products" help with this situation?

Our neighborhood and the people in it, including the people who live directly adjacent to this site, deserve better than this. I don't think we should be expanding alcohol offerings in a store that already seems to be struggling and isn't showing a level of care that would indicate an understanding of the values and concerns of the neighborhood.

Thank you for considering my comments. Please deny the expanded liquor license for this location in the neighborhood.

Thank you,
Lisa MacKinnon

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Lisa M. MacKinnon
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A just society is a society that if you knew everything about it, you'd be willing to enter it in a random place. ~ John Rawls

A society should be judged not by how it treats its outstanding citizens but by how it treats its criminals. ~ Fyodor Dostoyevsky