

**From:** [Figueroa Cole, Yvette](#)  
**To:** [Verbick, Jim](#); [Blackamore, Shannon](#); [Knepp, Eric](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Liquor License  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2026 12:42:36 PM

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Is this part of the record?

Thanks,  
Yvette

[Alder Figueroa Cole](#)  
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**From:** Evers, Tag <[district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2026 10:22 PM  
**To:** Figueroa Cole, Yvette <[district10@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district10@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Subject:** Fw: Liquor License

Please see below.

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**From:** Knepp, Eric <[EKnepp@cityofmadison.com](mailto:EKnepp@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2026 10:02 PM  
**To:** Blackamore, Shannon <[SBlackamore@cityofmadison.com](mailto:SBlackamore@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Cc:** Evers, Tag <[district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Subject:** Liquor License

Captain Blackamore –

I heard from Alder Evers that there is an application for a liquor license at 421 S. Park St. next to Brittingham Park.

I wanted to share with you that the Parks Division does have concerns related to changes around Brittingham Park that could impact the delicate balance that we have established over the years in partnership with MPD, neighbors, park users, and service providers. The history of the Park includes some dark days where it was effectively unused by most community members due to safety concerns. A contributory factor to most of the behavior and quality of life concerns was alcohol. The issues were so significant that it led to the Parks Commission and City Council banning alcohol at Brittingham Park without a permit and also was a significant driver of events that led to the Parks Behavior Policy (that can lead to non-citation park bans for behavior violations).

The Park today is a much different story. From the City's first fully accessible playground, to an amazing community garden, a healthy boat rental business, and countless gatherings throughout the year, the Park is full of positive community use. The park users today are truly reflective of our entire community, and it has over the past decade become a very well used and loved park. I often use the park as an example of the philosophy the absolute best limiter of negative behavior in a park is to increase positive behavior in the park. I have learned over the years that it is critical for us to not lose sight of how delicate the balance is when things are going well. Though I wish no ill will to someone who seeks to create a successful business selling alcohol, based on the concerns from past experience and the price of losing the balance at Brittingham, I felt it important to share with MPD my concerns about proliferation of availability of alcohol in and around Brittingham. I cannot say what will happen, but I can confidently say that for about a decade families, children, and community members did not use Brittingham for positive activities very often due to negative activities that were rooted in alcohol. Anything that could move us back in that direction is a concern and worthy of extra scrutiny.

I am happy to meet and discuss with you or anyone on the team. I am also happy to provide any additional information that would be helpful here.

Thanks,

**ERIC M. KNEPP**

Parks Superintendent

(608) 266-4711

**MADISON  
PARKS**