



Petition to the Alcohol License Review Commission regarding repeated excessive noise emanating from the outdoor plaza of the Edgewater Hotel.

August 15, 2017

Alder Ledell Zellers held two neighborhood meetings for residents who live in the immediate vicinity of the Edgewater Hotel. The meetings were held in the restaurant of Kennedy Manor on August 24, 2016 and May 17, 2017 with a combined attendance of 75. Also in attendance were Amy Supple (Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Edgewater), Melanie Gautreau (Senior Manager of special events at the Edgewater), two Madison police officers, and other representatives of the city.

Alder Zellers organized and chaired the meetings because the hotel had failed to respond to numerous complaints by residents about excessive noise. Also, the experience of most residents who called the police about this issue was that the police told them that since the hotel has a permit for outdoor events, nothing could be done. Many residents are also very hesitant to bother the police about this issue.

We, the undersigned, think that the Edgewater Hotel has been repeatedly disturbing the peace in our neighborhood, as defined in Chapter 24 of the Madison General Ordinances, which states that:

“It shall be unlawful for any person to make or assist in making any noise tending to unreasonably disturb the peace and quiet of persons in the vicinity thereof unless the making and continuing of the same cannot be prevented and is necessary for the protection or preservation of property or of the health, safety, life or limb of some person.”

Since the Edgewater continued to make noise after our meeting last year, it seems impossible to work with them. Therefore, we are asking the Alcohol License Review Commission to remedy this situation.

The basic situation is that for most weeks during the summer (from Memorial Day to Labor Day), the Edgewater has amplified live bands playing outside on its plaza for several hours (usually from about 6-9 pm) on most Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. This noise has been constantly obnoxious and intrusive, often featuring loud drumming and yelling. The hotel also shows outdoor movies on Tuesdays, which have sometimes been loud enough to disturb residents. There are other events such as Fathers' Day and the Fourth of July when the noise begins earlier in the afternoon (around 2 or 3 p.m.) and continues until around 9 in the evening. At other times during the year there are events such as football Saturdays, when the noise also begins early in the afternoon and continues until late. **Alcoholic beverages are available for purchase at all these events.**

We understand that when the owners of the Edgewater Hotel presented their plans for re-developing the hotel to the Madison City Plan Commission, they did not state that they planned on presenting outdoor live amplified music several days per week for the sum-

mer months. This seems to imply that the Conditional Use approved with this Planned Unit Development does not include permission to perform loud, intrusive, amplified music outside on the plaza.

Residents spoke about how the Edgewater's noise has been disturbing the peace and diminishing the quality of life in our beautiful, historic Madison neighborhood. From North Pinckney Street to Gilman Street to Wisconsin Avenue to Langdon Street, the noise makes it impossible for us to enjoy peace and quiet in our own homes. Therefore, we think that the Edgewater's practices constitute a clear violation of Madison's General Ordinance Chapter 24.

Examples given by residents about how the noise impacts them include:

1. Perhaps most seriously, we know of cases where noise has forced residents either to move to another apartment within their building or to move away from the neighborhood altogether.
2. Many stated that they have to keep their windows and storm windows closed (even on beautiful days in the summer) and use other noise mitigation measures such as turning on air conditioners or using headphones so as not to be disturbed by the noise.
3. Some are no longer able to enjoy eating outside on their patios or porches. They have to eat quickly and then either go inside with windows closed or even leave the house and go away from the neighborhood for the evening until the noise stops.
4. The noise bounces off other structures such as the National Guardian Insurance building. Also, it is extremely loud in homes that are on higher floors of buildings. Therefore, even if the Edgewater sound engineer measures the noise at ground level, this does not begin to capture all the impact of the noise on the neighborhood.
5. Residents cannot enjoy normal conversations, their own music, or watching television in their homes because of the noise.
6. Some residents who want to work at home have not been able to do this because the noise is so disruptive.
7. The noise interferes with rest and sleeping.
8. Residents have to sit in the quietest room in their home, rather than being able to sit where they want.
9. Regarding another matter, many residents also complained about the excessive noise emanating from the Edgewater's loading dock, even as early as 4:00 a.m., including such

things as buses idling for hours on end with no driver present, and loud beeping and banging going on for long periods of time. This severely disturbs residents' sleep and rest.

Therefore, we think that our only recourse is to submit this complaint to the ALRC.

Years ago the old Edgewater Hotel was a refined, elegant addition to the neighborhood and the city of Madison. Many of us enjoyed going there for a special meal or a beautiful evening on the pier. We would like to see the hotel become such a venue again.

Therefore, we ask the ALRC to take the strongest possible steps to remedy this untenable situation. We ask you to ban or at least limit to a minimum amplified music, movies, and all other noisy outdoor events at the hotel that disturb the peace of the neighborhood.

Thank you very much for considering our complaint.

Signed (residents of District 2):

Name	Address
1. <i>Janice Duond</i>	<i>504 Wisconsin Ave. #1</i>
2. <i>Pat Sheldon</i>	<i>504 Wisconsin Ave #3</i>
3. <i>Jack Weller</i>	<i>512 WIS - AV</i>
4. <i>Mary Mohs</i>	<i>id</i>
5. <i>Mary Sheean</i>	<i>25 Langdon St. B Apt.</i>
6. <i>(Sheean)</i>	<i>25 Langdon St. Apt B</i>
7. <i>E.S. Dew</i>	<i>28 E 8th Gilman</i>
8. <i>Barbara Schwab</i>	<i>522 N Pinckney St #53</i>
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Signed (residents of District 2):

Name	Address
1. <u>Carol Poore</u>	<u>1 Langdon St. #504, Madison, WI</u>
2. <u>Barb Williams</u>	<u>1 Langdon St #305</u>
3. <u>Frances Ingraham</u>	<u>516 Wisconsin #1</u>
4. <u>Jim Miller</u>	<u>1 Langdon 502</u>
5. <u>Jim Wick</u>	<u>1 Langdon</u>
6. <u>Maree Foide</u>	<u>1 Langdon #401</u>
7. <u>Brooke Tuttle</u>	<u>1 Langdon St #203</u>
8. <u>Susan Nelson</u>	<u>1 Langdon Street</u>
9. <u>Cheryl Bowers</u>	<u>1 Langdon Street 302</u>
10. <u>Santha Jones</u>	<u>1 Langdon #503</u>
11. <u>Lori Schmitt</u>	<u>1 Langdon #312</u>
12. <u>Liz Allen</u>	<u>1 " #405</u>
13. <u>William J. Ljdas</u>	<u>" #301</u>
14. <u>LISA FUSARO</u>	<u>1 Langdon #402</u>

15. Stuart Dale / Langdon B

16. James Murphy / Langdon #110

17. Mary Smith / Langdon #104

18. Don McC

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Emphatic
Agreement!
I thought
they were
building
a hotel
in the
neighborhood
not a
concert
venue!
I can't
have
windows
open
ever.

My
quality
of life feels
quite
diminished
and I
can't take
all the
noise!