

Item #19841

Nina J. Emerson
137 S. Brittingham Place
Madison, WI 53715

January 19, 2011

Mr. David Hart, Chairperson
Madison Alcohol License Review Committee
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Madison, WI 53703

Re: Alcohol License Density Ordinance

Dear Chairperson Hart and Members of the ALRC:

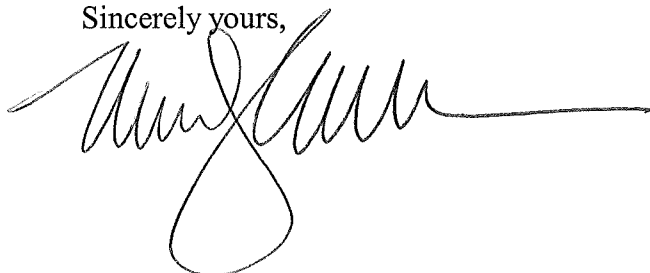
I am writing this letter in support of retaining the Alcohol Beverage License Density Plan (ALDO) of the Madison Municipal Ordinances which will sunset on March 5, 2011, if not recommended by the ALRC to the Common Council. The Subcommittee on Downtown Alcohol Issues and Ordinances provided numerous opportunities for interested parties to express their opinions and request revisions to the existing ordinance. While I may not agree with all of the proposed revisions, I support ALDO in principle.

ALDO is designed to "decrease the incidence of alcohol-related problems in the downtown area" by gradually reducing the number and capacity of certain types of alcohol beverage licenses. Has it worked? Well, those in support of it say that it has and those opposed say that it hasn't. Has it been in effect long enough to fully evaluate its effectiveness? No. ALDO should be made permanent without an impending sunset and evaluated through the Annual Review process outlined in the ordinance.

As a downtown resident, I greatly appreciate the restraints that ALDO imposes. I am relieved that the CVS on Bedford could not even be considered for an alcohol license. I would think that members of the ALRC would be relieved that they don't have to make some of the hard decisions that would be required in the absence of ALDO.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nina Emerson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.