



WOODLAND MONTESSORI SCHOOL

1124 Colby Street • Madison, Wisconsin 53715
(608) 256-8076

May 22, 1997

Bill Roberts, Planning Unit
City of Madison Department of Planning and Development
P.O. Box 2985
Madison, WI 53701-2985

Dear Bill:

A neighborhood meeting was held at Woodland Montessori School on May 13, 1997 to discuss transportation, parking, noise, and other issues related to the property at 114 Van Deusen Street. Ald. Napoleon Smith was invited but was unable to attend the meeting. Eight interested neighbors and staff of Woodland Montessori School discussed a variety of issues surrounding the school and its expansion into the toddler facility next door. The discussion was very amicable and a broad consensus was reached.

The attached Transportation Management Plan addresses the concerns raised at the permit hearing as well as a number of concerns that came up at the neighborhood meeting. The school has succeeded in opening up a dialogue with the neighborhood and we've encouraged neighbors to contact us immediately if problems arise.

We believe this satisfies the outstanding conditions listed in your April 4th letter and that we will now receive final approval of our conditional use permit. We are proceeding with our application for a building permit to begin construction in June.

Thank you for your assistance throughout this process. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Tom Hecht
Executive Director

Enc.

cc: Ald. Napoleon Smith

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Master Transportation Management Plan

Woodland Montessori School (WMS) encourages all parents and staff to be good neighbors and respect our nearby residents and surroundings. In an effort to reduce traffic congestion and address neighborhood concerns, the following plan has been developed. This plan should serve as a guide and insure compliance with parking requirements by employees and parking or standing by parents' vehicles picking up or dropping off children at school.

- ☞ **All Woodland families must obey all traffic signs and parking restrictions. Do not park too close to the intersection or the fire hydrant. Park only in the direction of traffic.**
- ☞ **Parents are encouraged to Car Pool. Each fall, the school will post a map of Dane County showing family locations to assist in this effort.**
- ☞ **Staff are required to park further away from the school down Colby or Van Deusen streets to maximize parent access to the building.**
- ☞ **Parents are encouraged to park on the school side of the street. Parents are asked not to park on the south side of Van Deusen Street.**
- ☞ **Parents who violate these guidelines will be warned verbally and written notices will be placed on car windshields. WMS will place signs on school doors and bulletin boards to alert parents about recurrent problems. After several warnings, WMS will contact city parking authorities and encourage them to issue tickets to persistent violators.**
- ☞ **WMS will seek open communications with neighbors regarding parking issues. The school will support a neighborhood initiative to install stop signs at the corner of Colby and Van Deusen and to add yellow paint to the curbs to discourage parking in undesirable locations. WMS will also explore staggered drop off and pick up times to reduce traffic flow at peak times.**

Correspondence from Parents over
(mt)



Woodland Montessori School

January 9, 2012

Dear Mr. Matt Tucker,

I understand that you have been in contact with Scott Braun, our Board President, in regard to a complaint by Mr. Noel Hooper Lofton. I want to thank you in advance for agreeing to come to the school and meet with us on Wednesday January 11th at 8:30, and I want make sure you get any information you need to look into this complaint.

Please find below several examples in how we comply with the Woodland Montessori School's *Master Transportation Management Plan* to minimize the impact our school has on the parking situation in the Bay Creek neighborhood.

Staggered arrival and departure times. In regards to enrollment and timing, the school enrolls approximately 100 students, and there are 4 different arrival times and 8 different departure times – this is an attempt to stagger the amount of parking congestion in the neighborhood.

A majority of the students arrive at the 8:15/8:30 time, but about 20% of the students arrive at the 7:15/7:30 arrival. Approximately one third of our students depart at the 12:15/12:30, another third at the 2:15/2:30 departure, and the final third stay until the end of the day, either leaving at 4:15/4:30 or 5:15/5:30. I would say that close to 15% of our families come from the Bay Creek Neighborhood.

Encourage biking, walking, and carpooling. The Montessori philosophy is a method that strongly supports environmentalism. Maria Montessori writes at length about teaching children to respect the environment. The clientele and workforce at WMS tend to be like minded in regards to the environment, and a large percentage, especially during the warm months, walks or bike to school. Feel free to notice the many bikes and bike trailers parked at drop-off at least 6 months out of the year.

Our original Master Transportation Management Plan posted map to show families locations to assist in carpooling efforts. Now, with modern technology, we publish and email a roster to encourage carpooling efforts.

Parking. WMS does do several things in regards to parking. When parents improperly park, the WMS administration contacts the family in a timely manner requesting them to correct the action going forward. In all of our enrollment materials there are maps and explanations regarding parking, where one should park, and requesting that we all be respectful of our neighborhood. Please review page 7 of the attached WMS Parent Manual for an example. We also regularly put out reminders in our weekly emails requesting that our families to be respectful of the neighborhood. We also encourage the use of carpooling by annually publishing a school directory listing where families reside if they wish to be listed.

Encouraging Open Communication. We have friendly relationships with our neighbors, often waving and saying hello day to day. We have both alumnae and current families in the Bay Creek neighborhood who often stop in or call regarding neighborhood issues. Our non-WMS neighbors also come to us for help and requests, for example, one year, the lady who lived next door to us on Colby Street, asked if we could keep parents from parking directly in front of her house due to some mobility challenges she was experiencing. Through direct communication with our families we were able to accommodate this request.

References. Please feel free to reference Connie Williams or Monica Host with the City of Madison Child Care Accreditation Program to offer additional examples of how Woodland Montessori School has put forth effort to keep neighborly relations in Bay Creek positive. Our neighborhood police officers, Matt Wenzel and Jim Morivac, will also attest to Woodland's continued efforts to respond to concerns and keep the neighborhood peaceful.

Neighborhood Thank you Event. Part of our current strategic plan lists implementing an annual neighborhood "thank you" event, our first of which was hosted last spring. The neighborhood helped us to celebrate our 40 years in the community of Bay Creek. Several neighbors came and ate cake and enjoyed the festivities. I think you will find that most of our community values having WMS in the neighborhood.

Little Library. Part of our continued efforts to be a positive contribution to the neighborhood includes the decision to install a *Little Library* in the front of the school. To read more about the *Little Library* initiative please see. Essentially by adding this little house to store books, and a bench for reading, we hope to foster more community and goodwill in the Bay Creek neighborhood. The library will be added over the next month.

I hope this information is helpful, and let me know if you need anything further.

Thank you Mr. Tucker, and I look forward to meeting you on Wednesday.

Sincerely,

Erin R. Trondson

Head of School

Woodland Montessori School