

From: [Robbie Webber](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: No to alcohol density proposal
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Alders -

I'm not in favor of the current proposal to limit new class A licenses within 1/4 mile of many uses, including parks, schools, libraries, etc. But maybe not for the reason you have heard before.

Many grocery stores can only exist financially by selling beer, wine, and other alcoholic beverages. In mixed-use areas of the city, with many schools and small parks, new local grocery stores (or convenience stores) would not be able to get a liquor license. This actually may be disincentive to locate in areas that need access to local stores.

In my neighborhood and nearby District 5 -- where sponsor Alder Vidivar lives -- the following would not be able to hold a liquor license, if they didn't already exist: Trader Joes, Regent Coop, Barriques, Fresh Mart, as well as Miller's liquor, the BP station on University Ave, and the Spirit Mart at Franklin and University. All these are within 1/4 mile of either a school or a park.

We are striving to have neighborhoods where people can meet their daily needs without driving. The corner grocery, and yes, Kwik Trip, BP station, or other gas station are places people buy milk, frozen pizzas, and even fresh fruits and vegetables as well as a six pack or bottle of wine. Larger grocery stores allow people to do their shopping locally and without driving.

However, for better or worse, many of these establishments cannot survive financially without selling alcohol, even if it's just beer.

When you consider your vote, consider how many of your daily needs might not be available if new or existing stores couldn't locate close by.

Robbie Webber

Transportation geek

All opinions are my own, and not necessarily those of any group or organization with which I am affiliated.

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