

From: [Mary Pustejovsky](#)
To: [Urban Design Comments](#)
Subject: Gompers Elementary/Black Hawk Middle School plan
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To whom it may concern

I am writing in regards to the site plan for Gompers Elementary/Black Hawk Middle School. As our climate changes (getting hotter and more intense rain events) and the city has looked to be more sustainable, it is incredibly disappointing to see that the proposal includes almost doubling the amount of parking, [from 70 spaces to 137](#). Parking increases the heat island effect, increases stormwater runoff, and encourages driving. Over and over again, [studies have shown](#) that the more parking provided, the more people will drive and the fewer will take other means of transportation such as walking, busing, biking, and rolling. Madison has goals to decrease greenhouse gas emissions from all sectors, and encouraging more driving through *adding* parking goes against explicitly stated city goals. Even if the vehicles are all electric, [PM 2.5 from tires](#) is still a problem and causes lung issues for all, especially children and their developing lungs.

The [city zoning code](#) also has a stated maximum of 1 parking space per classroom, so I am not sure how this aligns with city zoning requirements?

I urge you to recommend that the plan be updated to ensure that it aligns with city goals and existing regulations before approval.

Thank you

Mary Pustejovsky