



## EDGEWOOD COLLEGE

1000 Edgewood College Drive  
Madison, WI 53711-1997  
(608) 663-6714 • (608) 515-6503 (cell)  
MGuns@edgewood.edu  
www.edgewood.edu

Michael Guns  
Vice President of Business & Finance

### ***City of Madison Common Council Meeting***

***January 7, 2020***

#### ***Speaker Notes***

- My name is Michael Guns. I am responsible for physical plant, property development and neighborhood relations for Edgewood College.
- Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight.
- In 2014 we voluntarily entered into the Master Plan believing the purpose was to provide a tool for planned development informed by and in cooperation with neighbors.
  - Instead of being a fluid document based upon process and adjusting to meet the changing needs of students, it is strictly interpreted to restrict development, with focus on minute details of daily operations of the College.
  - It has become a tool for neighbors to monitor the application of salt, decide whether and how we mitigate invasive species, or question what plants are used in rain gardens.
  - It prevents lighting areas of campus to ensure the safety and security of our students. Lighting that meets or exceeds requirements imposed by the City of Madison is objected to simply because we were unable to predict the need five years prior.
  - Imagine if your neighbors could wander your backyards and monitor the time your children play, monitor plants in your garden, or measure water runoff from your sprinklers.
  - Imagine an Alder overruling the police and ending a family gathering.
- Operating under the Plan has proved burdensome and having little to do with collaborative development.
- The Master Plan requires the College, the High School, and the Campus school be treated as one organization.
  - Yet we are three distinct entities, with distinct needs.
  - The current Plan requires all schools and multiple neighborhoods be involved in matters brought through the neighborhood liaison committee causing unnecessary delays affecting the safety and security of our students.
  - Under a conditional use process, we would be treated as individual entities.
- We are not asking to be treated differently
  - We are asking to be treated the same way similar institutions designated campus institutional are treated - fairly and equitably
- We request that you vote to repeal the Master Plan