

From: [Rummel, Marsha](#)
To: [licensing](#); [Verveer, Michael](#); [Carter, Sheri](#); [Skidmore, Paul](#); [Mitchell Turino](#)
Subject: I/O Arcade Bar at ALRC January 20, 2021
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 10:13:39 PM

14. 63494 Public Hearing - New License I/O Arcade Bar, LLC • dba I/O Arcade Bar 924 Williamson St • Agent: Mitchell Turino • Estimated Capacity: 300 Class B Combination Liquor & Beer • 75% alcohol, 15% food Aldermanic District 6 (Alder Rummel) • Police Sector 408

Greetings ALRC members-

I have another city meeting and will not be able to attend the ALRC meeting. I am writing in support of the license with conditions listed below.

I held a virtual neighborhood meeting January 13. Approximately 15 people attended. The MNA Preservation and Development Committee voted to support at their January 12 meeting. At the MNA Board meeting on January 18, the Board voted to support with conditions. I was not able to attend the P&D meeting but did attend the Board meeting. I support MNA's recommended conditions.

At the neighborhood meeting, Mitchell Turino presented plans to move I/O Arcade Bar from the Olds Building at 720 Williamson to the former Plan B/Prism site at 924 Williamson. The bar has been closed for almost a year due to the pandemic. Neighbors in attendance expressed concerns about the proposed 300 person capacity and how it affects parking and noise. At I/Os current location, the capacity is 155, the new license requests 300. There was discussion about how long the Public Health emergency orders will be in place with the recognition that capacity would likely be limited to approx. 80-100 with social distancing. Mitchell asked for the 300 capacity requested.

At the MNA Board meeting, the 300 person capacity was also discussed at length. There were concerns about the capacity based on the negative experience with the nightclub. There was a recognition that the 300 person capacity will not be achieved in the short to medium term. It was understood that the issue could be revisited once COVID restrictions on indoor gathering spaces are lifted and/or during the annual renewal process.

Neighbors asked if I/O could close earlier on Sundays, Mitchell explained the bar time hours are geared to service industry customers who start their "weekend" on Sunday night.

At the MNA Board meeting, Mitchell agreed to close Sunday's at midnight.

Neighbors expressed concerns about noise. Mitchell stated that eventually he would like to apply for an Entertainment license in order to allow for curated playlists for '80s nights for

example but he is not seeking the E-license at this time. Regarding noise, he has removed the nightclub's large dance floor speakers and kept the overhead speakers. He noted that many of the games come with a sound experience and he is not interested in music levels that would overpower the gaming experience. He does not anticipate noise impacting neighbors like the previous danceclub use. Neighbors asked him to consider a licensed condition to keep noise to a 'reasonable level' or set decibel limits at the edge of the property. In addition, neighbors asked Mitchell to discourage patrons from smoking on the front sidewalk to limit noise impacts to nearby neighbors.

Regarding parking, at the new location, I/O Arcade can lease 12 stalls in the parking lot and will encourage customers to continue to use the South Livingston parking ramp on their website. Mitchell stated that many customers use rideshare services.

In addition, since a video arcade is considered "indoor recreation" in the zoning code, it will require a conditional use in the TSS zoning district. The applicant has started the process to seek a CU permit from the Plan Commission.

I support the following conditions and I believe the applicant agrees:

1. Hours: Sun – Thursday close at midnight, Fri - Sat close at bar time
2. Capacity: 300 (or lesser # after review by Building Inspection of plans specs for adding arcade and pinball games, TBD)
3. 75% alcohol/15% food/10% other
4. Food will be served up to 90 minutes before close
5. Amplified sound from establishment should not exceed 60% decibel limit at the property line
6. Promote use of existing outdoor designated smoking patio on side of building

Thanks as always for your service-

Marsha Rummel
District 6 Alder
City of Madison