

Dear Urban Design Staff,

I am a member of the McClellan Park Neighborhood Association Board (MPNA), but am speaking as an individual in this memo. This memo is in regards to the Grandview Commons Grocery Store/Town Center being presented again tonight (2.15.12)

The last time this proposed plan was presented to the UDC (1.18.12) the staff had several concerns and provided feedback to the developers regarding this proposal. Based on what I heard that night, the concerns included traffic, size of parking lot, elevation changes and architecture of the building. The staff told the presenters to “think out of the box” and come up with something radically different. The presenters agreed they would and come back to present again.

I’ve had the opportunity to look at the “revised” plan. In reviewing this latest draft, I was not able to identify the significant changes requested by UDC during previous sessions. I did see the elevation change documentation requested, but the project was unchanged from what I could see. The MPNA Board sent Brian Munson an email (2/10/12) asking him to summarize for us what was actually changed. No response has been received as of this date.

The UDC staff is in place for a reason and is very talented and provides crucial feedback to ensure Madison remains a place we are proud to call home. In past correspondences I’ve written my concerns with the proposal and UDC staff has dialed into the same concerns. Great job, keep it up!

To be clear, our family is in favor of the original plan of a neighborhood grocery store within a town center. This large big box store is not that. There is a reason the development has to go through the big box ordinance process, because that’s what it is and it just doesn’t fit where it is being proposed.

Please continue your persistency in holding the developers to building a responsible development in our neighborhood. Thank you for your time and what you do for Madison.

Sincerely,

Bob Hogan
6025 Sharpsburg Dr.