

LAKE EDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

October 5, 2009

City of Madison Plan Commission
215 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Suite LL100
Madison, WI 53701

Re: Royster-Clark Special Area Plan
Dear Plan Commissioners and City Staff:

On behalf of the Lake Edge Neighborhood Association, I am writing to let you know that our association, by way of a vote of the Board of Directors, supports the Royster-Clark Special Area Plan as a supplement to the City of Madison Comprehensive Plan and asks you to adopt it.

Although the site of the former Royster-Clark fertilizer plant is actually in the Eastmorland neighborhood, its proximity to the Lake Edge neighborhood – on our northern border along Cottage Grove Road – has made redevelopment of this site a priority for our neighborhood too. Several blocks of the Lake Edge neighborhood on the south side of Cottage Grove road have been included in the area covered by the plan.

We have worked closely with our neighbors in the Eastmorland neighborhood on the Neighborhood Planning Team (NPT), along with City of Madison planning staff and elected officials, to create the Special Area Plan. We wholeheartedly supported the work of the planning effort to guide the redevelopment of the Royster-Clark site to ensure that redevelopment is coordinated with uses in the surrounding neighborhood. I believe the planning process was an inclusive one, with several public meetings and listening sessions designed to gather input from area residents and property owners.

Like our neighbors in the Eastmorland neighborhood, we support the recommendations in the City of Madison's Comprehensive Plan (January 2006), which recommends that if the current industrial use no longer operates on the Royster-Clark site, alternative residential and mixed-use developments are more appropriate for the property than another industrial use.

I believe our neighborhood is especially supportive of development at this site which could bring jobs and commercial development to the area, and provide a unique gateway to this area of our neighborhood. The emphasis in the plan on mixed use development was important to our support. We endorse especially the overall vision expressed in the plan that *"redevelopment on the Royster-Clark site is an opportunity to create something special that enhances neighborhood identity, brings employment and engaging activities to the area, and acts as a catalyst to encourage additional neighborhood improvements."*

The Lake Edge neighborhood is engaged in several exciting ventures which have the potential to change the face of our neighborhood in the future, including reconstruction of Monona Drive, the Stoughton Road Revitalization Project, and the Royster-Clark Area Plan. We urge your support of the Royster-Clark Area Plan as an important component of redevelopment in our area.

Sincerely,



Tim Saterfield, President
Lake Edge Neighborhood Association
505 East Dean Avenue
Madison 53716