

## Peters, Tammy

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**From:** Scott Harrington [escotth@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 04, 2007 10:06 PM  
**To:** ALL ALDERS  
**Cc:** Jack Jenkins; Lawrence J Winkler; Marv Russell; wiscbadger@sbcglobal.net; deezees@charter.net; Barbara Mcleod; gmgarnett@yahoo.com; Denny Caneff; 1ePetersScott; higgins\_family; ithad2bu; mckenna; Packers; thejenns; Dawn E. Hildebrand; Harrington, Scott; marydc@charter.net; Diane Harrington  
**Subject:** Conservation Ordinance

Common Council Members,

I am writing to urge your adoption of the proposed conservation overlay district ordinance. I will be out of town tomorrow night and, therefore, unable to attend the meeting and provide these comments in person. If at all possible, I would like to have these comments entered into the record as you deliberate this important legislation.

I have carefully studied the previous drafts and current draft of the ordinance and was fortunate enough to attend a working meeting with city staff, alders and other community members during this most recent referral period. In addition to being a resident of the Orchard Ridge neighborhood, I am also a consulting urban planner with more than 20 years of municipal planning experience.

Accordingly, I am very familiar with these types of ordinances and have seen firsthand the tremendous positive impacts these programs can have.

While there are additional points of clarification that I would have preferred be added, it's clear to me that a lot of thought and effort have gone into this document. Although it is unclear at this time whether my neighborhood would benefit from this particular ordinance/program, I firmly believe that the protections afforded in the ordinance will be highly valuable to several Madison neighborhoods.

At the most recent meeting of the Orchard Ridge Community Club board (of which I am a member) the ordinance and its applicability/value to our neighborhood were discussed. Among those present, there was a general feeling that the overlay may not be the best method for us to address some of our recent concerns regarding redevelopment within our neighborhood. However, there was also a recognition that the ordinance may have immediate benefits to other neighborhoods in the City. The end result was that we took no official action on the proposal, leaving it up to our elected representatives to decide what is in the best interest of the entire community.

Although our board took no action, I firmly believe - personally and professionally - that our neighborhood would benefit from, and certainly not be harmed by, having this option available to us as we continue to assess the impact of redevelopment in our area. Further, it is my understanding that the need for a conservation district is included in many other Madison neighborhood plans and the city's Comprehensive Plan. Given the age and diversity of development in Madison, I am not surprised; I believe the ordinance will be an excellent tool to assist several neighborhoods in preserving their distinguishing characteristics while still accommodating redevelopment and infill. Therefore, I strongly urge your passage of this valuable measure.

Thank you for your consideration.

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