ID# 04153



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS County of Dane ROOM 118, CITY-COUNTY BUILDING

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Monday, July 10, 2006

Ken Golden, District 10 Alder City of Madison City-County Building, 4th Floor 210 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd Madison, WI 53703

Dear Alder Golden:

We are writing to ask for your attention to a matter of concern in the Arboretum area of south Madison.

As you may know, a realtor/developer is proposing to greatly expand one house and to build two additional large houses on one recently acquired piece of property inside the Arboretum. We believe this proposal, if approved, could potentially:

- threaten water quality in the Arboretum, Lake Wingra and Madison
- go against the spirit of the 2002 intergovernmental agreement between the City of Madison, the Town of Madison and the University of Wisconsin
- set a precedent for further inappropriate development in the Arboretum

The construction and placement of two large houses, with accompanying septic systems, in an area that is environmentally sensitive and within a stone's throw of Lake Wingra, is cause for concern. In addition, the original house on the property is also proposed to be expanded and its septic system expanded as well. This is all proposed to occur in an area that has held one small house for years.

Current jurisdiction lies with the Board of the Town of Madison, which has heard from a large number of Arboretum residents and others who are opposed to the proposal But while many residents of the Arboretum neighborhood seem to oppose this proposed development, it is also important to note that the Chancellor of the University, the Director of the Arboretum, and the President of the Friends of the Arboretum also have voiced opposition

This Thursday evening, July 13, 2006, the Town Board will hold a special meeting to discuss the proposal with residents. It would behove the City of Madison to have a representative at that meeting.

The UW Arboretum, Lake Wingra and the Arboretum neighborhood are regional treasures that are already squeezed by increasing human activity. It is extremely important that the potential impacts of more development in the Arboretum be thoroughly analyzed before any such new development occurs. It is therefore in the interest of the City of Madison to examine and comment on an issue that will affect an important area scheduled to become part of the city in the near future.

As three Dane County Supervisors who represent the area in question and who support land conservation, planning and maintaining water quality, we respectfully request the attention of the City's Department of Planning and Development, Planning Commission and Common Council to this matter.

Sincerely,

Sup Carousel Bayrd, District 8

Sup. Kyle Richmond, District 27

cc: Mayor Dave Cieslewicz

Madison Common Council members Madison Planning Commission members

Mark Olinger Brad Murphy