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Dear Plan Commissioners,

For the past several months, the Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood Association has worked diligently to understand the details of Edgewood High School's proposed amendment, study the impacts on our community, listen to neighborhood feedback, and stay open to proposals from the high school that would address our concerns.

Having done that work, we are confident that both the current proposal before the Plan Commission and the suggested changes by Alder Arntsen would be detrimental to the Dudgeon Monroe neighborhood without benefiting the city as a whole. We continue to strongly encourage the City to reject Edgewood's proposal.

DMNA has a long history of working with Edgewood and accommodating its need for growth and development. Since 2001, DMNA has supported 16 development projects for the high school, college, and primary school. Our liaison committee also meets regularly with Edgewood to discuss issues of mutual importance.

Since this proposal was introduced again in the fall, DMNA leadership has reached out to Mike Elliott on multiple occasions to offer to discuss the proposal, hear his thoughts on specific concerns, and ensure he had the correct contact information to set up a meeting with our team. Though he has communicated with us several times about logistical matters, we have never received a reply from him on these substantive matters. DMNA has made many attempts to come to the table on this issue; Edgewood's lack of response leaves us unconvinced that they are interested in a meaningful compromise with the neighborhood.

With that in mind, we oppose this development for three major reasons.

First, the development does not benefit the city in a meaningful way. Unlike city development that accommodates growth, creates affordable housing, increases the city tax base, or contributes to local business, this amendment benefits a private institution with nearly half its student population outside the Madison city limits.

Second, the neighborhood has consistently and strongly opposed this proposal since it was first raised more than two decades ago. In a survey of Dudgeon Monroe residents in April 2017, 67 percent of respondents said the neighborhood would be harmed by a new stadium. In October 2018, comments to the DMNA indicated that 80 percent of those who reached out are now opposed. For the majority of residents, the core of their concern is not about one part of Edgewood's proposal, but about the overall impact of noise, lights, traffic, and crowds on the use and enjoyment of their properties.

Third, current usage of the field is already disruptive to local residents. Since the Master Plan was approved in 2014, Edgewood has upgraded the athletic field surface, and, consequently, usage for competition rather than practice and physical education has increased, contrary to the usage listed in the



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Master Plan. With this increase has come greater noise from crowds, whistles, athletes, and a scoreboard. DMNA residences more than a block away from the field have complained that noise levels are disruptive. This experience has served as a preview of the kind of disruption a new stadium would cause, exacerbated significantly by the addition of amplified sound, lighting, and seating for 1,000 people.

We value Edgewood's presence in the Dudgeon Monroe neighborhood, but we believe this proposal has been re-introduced and pushed forward without true consideration of the impact on nearby residences. We hope that the Plan Commission will listen to the neighborhood and reject Edgewood's proposal to amend the Master Plan.

Sincerely,
Rachel Fields, Vice President of Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood Association
On behalf of DMNA