



**\*\*BY E-MAIL ONLY\*\***

August 29, 2023

City of Madison  
Plan Commission

The JRNA board has several concerns about the animal daycare business proposed for 314 Junction Road. Our Alder, Nikki Conklin, indicated that she informed the applicant (Poochtails) there was neighborhood opposition and recommended that they meet with us. This never happened.

Considering the neighborhood opposition that was registered on the Commission's website, we were very surprised that the Commission conditionally approved this permit.

Our main concern is that this site does not seem like the appropriate location for this type of facility. There are no outdoor facilities and there are residential units directly above the daycare area. Considering the apparent overwhelming concerns expressed by the community, we are further concerned as to how the Commission took these concerns into consideration.

The board believes the city should reconsider this conditional approval.

In the event the Commission moves forward with this, we believe there are several issues that should be resolved, including the following:

The applicant proposes to house four dogs per kennel and to exercise the dogs inside the building.

- Is there any evidence that four dogs in one kennel is reasonable?
- What happens if some dogs don't get along with others?
- Is there room inside to exercise the dogs?

The applicant states that dogs that bark excessively will not be allowed to return. Even if no dog barks "excessively", it is likely that the normal barking of 28 dogs will be unpleasant for the residents of the building. The odor may also be unpleasant for the residents.

- When they walk dogs through the "neighborhood", can we be assured that they will not utilize the very small amount of grass that the residents use?

Junction Ridge Neighborhood Association  
PO Box 45433, Madison, WI 53744  
[www.jrna-madison.org](http://www.jrna-madison.org)



The applicant plans to walk dogs through the neighborhood. Unfortunately, we already have complaints about dog messes left in the park. There is no dog waste-bag station in the area. How can we be assured that staff will clean up after these dogs? Also, they plan to have six staff, each person responsible for approximately 5 dogs at a time.

- Given the difficulty of hiring people for entry level work, how can we be assured they will be fully staffed?
- What is the back-up plan for dog-walking if one or more staff people are absent?

We regret not officially stating our concerns sooner, but we incorrectly expected the Commission to gather more information and address the overwhelming community opposition prior to granting this conditional approval. We also anticipated that the applicant would be contacting us, as we understand Alder Conklin advised.

Thanks for your reconsideration of this conditional approval and your further due diligence before granting final approval.

Sincerely,

Glenn D. Fulkerson  
President

cc Nikki Conklin  
Glenn Fulkerson  
Lynn Wiskowski  
Amy Schultz  
Mark Dunbar  
Jennifer Ondrejka  
Betty Keeney  
Mukta Nandwani  
Dayla Stapleton

Junction Ridge Neighborhood Association  
PO Box 45433, Madison, WI 53744  
[www.jrna-madison.org](http://www.jrna-madison.org)