

From: Susan and Alan Sweet [mailto:the2sweets@att.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2012 2:35 PM
To: Martin, Al
Cc: Mayor; Cnare, Lauren; the2sweets
Subject: Please distribute this at the 2/15 UDC meeting

Dear Members of the Urban Design Committee,

I am writing in reference to the 2/15 agenda item relating to the consideration of a big box, likely a Roundy's store, in the town center of Grandview Commons. You will, I am sure, be inundated with arguments for and against the proposal. My comments will be brief and, hopefully, focused.

I understand that the role of the UDC is to act on the viability, aesthetics, practicalities, zoning and plan restrictions, etc. as they relate to the proposed big box. One more factor should play a role in your decision-making, i.e., neighborhood support for such a proposal. It is this particular item which causes me to write.

This past fall, I, along with five of my neighbors, conducted an informal, yet very telling, survey of the 76 units in our Birchwood Ridge condo association (Birchwood Ridge shares a border with Grandview Commons very near the Town Center area.) We previously wrote to you in some detail about the results. Bottom line: 73% of the 70 unit owners expressing their opinions indicated that either they did NOT want a large retail store at all and/or the projected size (58,000 square feet) was clearly in excess of what they felt was reasonable - identified as 25,000 square feet according to the currently approved neighborhood plan.

Beyond the boundaries of our condo association, there is a strong and outspoken opinion that the Roundy's proposal does NOT fit in with the New Urbanism look and feel in Grandview Commons. I agree.

My message is simple: if, indeed, the UDC vote is to be truly reflective of the overwhelming sentiment of the neighborhood, the outcome of this matter must be a UDC NO vote!

Sincerely,

Alan Sweet
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