

From: [MARTIN DAVID SAUNDERS](#)
To: [licensing](#)
Subject: Against the provision of a liquor license for Om's Liquor Store (item 69577)
Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 6:19:09 PM

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Dear Members of the Alcohol License Review Committee,

I am a 35-year resident of this neighborhood and the last thing we need here is a liquor store. There are so many things that can improve a neighborhood and help build a sense of community - adding another store devoted to selling alcohol is not one of them. There are already plenty of places that people can get liquor if they want it. I would like to add my name to the list of people who are against the provision of a liquor license for this property, and I would fully support all of the points made in the accompanying letter.

Thank you,

Martin Saunders
834 W. Lakeside St.
Madison, WI 53715

We are a concerned group of neighbors writing to ask the ALRC to decline a liquor license to Om's Liquor Store, Item 69577 on the agenda for Wednesday 2/16/22.

This store is proposing to come into the new building, The Emerson's commercial which sits adjacent to the Amstar gas station which has had several shootings in recent years along with activity that MPD has labeled a nuisance. Additionally, the space at 1101 S. Park Street is immediately next to an addiction treatment center called [5 Door Recovery](#). We neighbors feel that it is irresponsible to the vitality and safety of the neighborhood to place a liquor store in such close proximity to these existing businesses.

The neighborhood engaged in a process of negotiation with the developer of the multi-use building, The Emerson, to create a store front that would have a large patio area to welcome a business that would foster community in the neighborhood. Businesses that foster community build the resilience of a community and naturally help to deter crime by strengthening relationships in the neighborhood. A key element of this type of business is to create space for gathering - a place where people stay to consume things on site or to do some type of activity together. A liquor store where people drive by to buy alcohol to take home, or to consume on the street nearby does not create safety or any sense of this protective community.

Additionally, with the large liquor selection at the Pick N Save across the street, the full selection of alcohol available less than one mile away at Regent Liquor and the access to beer at the numerous gas stations up and down Park Street, we neighbors feel that there is no need for another liquor store at this location.

The owner of the proposed business, Meena Kaushal, met with the neighborhood association last Thursday, 2/10/22. She presented her plans to over forty community members over zoom without ever turning on her camera to introduce herself properly to the community she plans to enter. She was met by concern from numerous community members about the possibility of the store contributing to loitering and other less favorable behaviors. The owner became

defensive when approached about some of these concerns and had to be asked repeatedly during this community meeting to address these issues.

This space would optimally be used as a place that increases connection, uses the patio space as a community space and allows Bay Creek residents, those who work in the surrounding medical offices and those who pass by on Park St. to spend their money locally in a way that increases vibrancy in the neighborhood.

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he ALRC has the opportunity to use its power to discern where and how liquor should be sold in Madison. We understand that this is a matrix of decision-making and we respectfully ask you to consider choosing to help develop this area of S. Park Street in a manner that is thoughtful and considerate to the surrounding community.

We sincerely appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

Amelie Davidson + Denny Marsh, 801 Emerson St.
Stanley Jackson
Sonja Darlington