From: Figueroa Cole, Yannette
To: Shirmel Duncan; licensing
Cc: Jimmie Duncan; fred bachmanns.com
Subject: Re: Declination of Liquor License Approval for 4633 Verona Rd.
Date: Thursday, September 15, 2022 8:54:49 PM
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Hello!

Thank you for your email. I have included the licensing committee on this communication.

I will continue to share meeting information and opportunities to share your concerns via the city blog as this item moves through the licensing process.

Thanks, Y
Alder Yannette Figueroa Cole (she/her/hers)
District 10 - Madison Common Council

Sent from my iPhone

> On Sep 15, 2022, at 5:40 PM, Shirmel Duncan <sduncan@journeytogetherchildcare.com> wrote:
>
> Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.
>
> Hello,
>
> I wanted to share my opinion about the proposal to open Walter Cifuentes' liquor store at 4633 Verona Rd.
>
> This is essentially right next door to my child care center and would not be a good idea to be over in our area. We are trying to build our business and it is already bad enough that people judge the area and use that as a reason to not want to enroll their child/children-which in turn hurts our revenue.
> We want to look at having the county/city/state build the area up not continuously decrease the area by adding more liquor stores and correctional facilities- which not to mention may have people who are known sex offenders checking into. We want our clients and potential clients to be at ease when they drop their kids off knowing their kids will be safe. We know that when there are liquor stores, people tend to loiter, and tend to have a stronger police presence and that is not okay. It would not be safe.

In addition to loitering, we would then have to also deal with more clean up of our property such as empty liquor bottles, broken glass in the parking lot, and other debris that people tend to leave behind when there are liquor stores present. It would not be fair if we were to get cited for this during a licensing audit. It has a strong potential to violate DCF251 rules as shown below. This information can be found in the Department of Children and Families Licensing 251 rules and regulations for the state of Wisconsin.

(2) PROTECTIVE MEASURES.
(a) The indoor and outdoor premises shall be free of hazards including any recalled products.

See DCF 251.03 (13m) – DEFINITION – HAZARD. Licensing staff will not conduct a detailed review of equipment and materials to determine whether items in the center have been recalled. It is the licensee's responsibility to ensure that they are aware of any recalled products and to remove them from the areas occupied by children.

"Free of hazards" is a discretionary rule to cover a wide variety of hazardous conditions which may occur including, but not limited to, basement stairwells not protected by a fence or gate, lawn sprinkler valve boxes recessed several inches below ground with no cover, broken glass or cans, holes, fences or enclosures with an opening that allows passage of an object that is larger than 4 inches in diameter, sharp edges or points near adjacent climbing equipment, etc.

Certain pull toys may have a cord or string the length of which may present a strangling hazard to a child. Strings on pull toys should not be longer than 12 inches so that cords cannot be wrapped around necks. Strings or cords on window blinds must be short to prevent choking, must not hang in loops, and must be made inaccessible to children when blinds are raised.

Roof-top playgrounds must always be inspected and approved prior to use by a Department of Safety and Professional Services inspector or designated certified commercial building inspector.

ASBESTOS: If there is suspicion of asbestos, providers should contact the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for asbestos treatment and abatement procedures. For more information, see https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/asbestos/index.htm.

You also stated that the store will also carry tobacco, which will also not be good for our center especially that the WI Administrative code ALSO states the following...

WISCONSIN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 55

251.06(2)(h)

(h) Smoking is prohibited on the premises of the center or in a vehicle used to transport children when the children are in care.

2009 WI Act 12 banned smoking in all public places and workplaces, regardless of whether the building is publicly or privately owned.

Use of electronic cigarettes or other smoking devices is prohibited on the premises when children are present.

When a child care center is in a building that houses other separate businesses or is used during child care hours for other purposes, the premises includes the indoor and outdoor spaces that have been specifically identified as part of the child care program.

Note: See s. DCF 251.03 (25) for the definition of premises.

With this being said, There is a strong chance that their customers will also be on our premises with cigarettes and the remnants of the cigarettes when they are all done.

If their hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 9am to 9pm, this means that even in the winter, when we close for business, our employees will be afraid for their safety as it gets dark earlier.

It will make parents nervous about bringing their kids here. It is bad enough that we have people randomly walking through our parking lot to get to the next

business, A liquor store will not be ideal for our area. Parents actually look at things like this when they are choosing a child care center for their children. They want to know what the surrounding businesses are. I, as having 6 children of my own, and as a parent, would not be okay with sending my child to a child care center that is next to a liquor store. I would unenroll my kids and go someplace I feel is safe. I am not just speaking from a business perspective, I am speaking from a parental perspective as well, with MY youngest being just 1 year of age. We are working hard to build our center and create more revenue; this will decrease it even more.

I would respectfully say NO to Walter Cifuentes' liquor license.

Respectfully,

Shirmiel Duncan
Administrator
Ph 608-298-7684
Fx 608-298-7694

"Laundry is the only thing that should be sorted by color" -unknown

Journey Together
Child Care