

From: [Anne Reynolds](#)
To: [licensing](#); [Rummel, Marsha](#)
Cc: [Tom Liebl](#)
Subject: May 17 meeting, Item 32, change of Licensed Premises, The Atwood, 2116 Atwood Avenue
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 8:58:27 PM

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May 15, 2023

TO: Members of the Alcohol License Review Committee, Alder Marsha Rummel

FROM: Anne Reynolds and Tom Liebl, 2139 Linden Ave.

RE: Item 32, Change of Licensed Premises, The Atwood, 2116 Atwood Ave

We are strongly opposed to modifying the existing liquor license for The Atwood at 2116 Atwood Avenue. The current conditions for this license are the result of past negotiations between neighbors, the Alder, the current owner, and the City of Madison. **All of the conditions are meant to reduce noise in the parking lot. These conditions successfully control most noise issues for neighbors:**

1. After 9 p.m., the back door will be used as an emergency exit only.
2. No trash will be dumped or collected between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.
3. Live music inside will end by 12:30 a.m.
4. While there is live music, the front door will be kept closed.
5. On nights when there is live music, a staff member will manage the parking lot from 11 p.m. until it has cleared.

We are also very concerned that there was minimal notice to neighbors about establishing an outdoor, 1200 square foot bar, operating 7 days a week at all hours. The only notice for this modification of the existing liquor license was a posted notice at The Atwood, and perhaps a notice in the newspaper. Postcards were not sent, there was no informational meeting, and we have received no contact from the SASYNA. The owners of The Atwood made no attempt to contact neighbors within sightline and earshot about this proposal.

These are our reasons for opposition to the proposed change in license:

- The parking lot of 2118 and 2116 Atwood has historically been a nuisance area, with people congregating in the parking lot during and after bar-time, and vehicle noise/exhaust.
- The proposed outdoor bar area is hidden from street view so cannot be supervised

by police from the street. There is no window between the interior of The Atwood and the outdoor bar area, so staff will need to be outside to supervise.

- The reflective surfaces of the surrounding buildings bounce noise directly into at least 12 residential properties.
- The proposed license will create a 1200 square foot expansion of open- air bar service in an area surrounded by residents within sightline and earshot. It effectively creates an outdoor bar in our backyard, and the backyard of the entire (largely residential) block. This cannot in any way be a benign neighbor.

We urge you to reject this application. Many thanks for your attention.