

**From:** [Grace Hasler](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Subject:** comments for June 22nd planning commission meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 5:54:38 PM

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To the planning commission,

I love the city of Madison; I remember coming as a student for the first time and falling in love with it. My husband and I returned in 2007 and have lived on the Isthmus for the past 16 years. Though the city is still a remarkable place I have recently focused attention on our urban landscape as the city has grown and developed particularly on the Washington Ave corridor and the rapidly changing State St/campus area.

I have read the 2020 Urban Task Force Report and also familiarized myself with the various decisional entities that impact our open spaces and street scapes.

It's encouraging and exciting to know that there are others who are passionate about these issues. Thank you so much for being on the planning commission and for addressing so many topics relevant to a vibrant city.

Our Isthmus and the UW Campus area are alarmingly deficient in canopy trees. In fact we are at 8-13%, half of the projected recommendation in the task force report. We are increasingly becoming a city heat island. The current development practices/requirements are adding to the problem with very little space to allow for significant heat relieving spaces and tree opportunity.

Communities across the country are trying to create an identity through enhancement of natural beauty and Madison should be at the forefront.

Development goals and objectives should include the enhancement and creation of open space, preserving trees and planting trees, buffering city spaces, and using landscaping to create a sense of place for neighborhoods, corridors, and community street scape.

I am looking forward to hearing how this evening's information and presentation will move us forward in a climate challenged world. I support the Urban Forestry Task Force and look forward to seeing their report and recommendations and the Green Streets Plan be integral to a healthy, beautiful city through your planning efforts.

Sincerely, Grace Hasler

Grace Hasler  
[gracehasler@gmail.com](mailto:gracehasler@gmail.com)

**From:** [SANDRA E WARD](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Subject:** June 22 item 78427  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 8:18:50 AM

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Welcome to Madison Mr. Brown. I am writing to express my concern that development in downtown Madison is progressing so rapidly, with seemingly little consideration to our tree canopy, that soon no space will remain for saving and enhancing that canopy. Several large projects are now in the proposal phase (e.g., the downtown full-block MATC site) and I am hoping that street-level trees that shade all who walk these blocks will be a priority in the design and approval process. A PRIORITY, not an afterthought. Thank you in advance for the work you will be doing for our city.

Sandra Ward  
333 W. Mifflin St Unit 6010  
Madison WI