

From: jeanie kramer <jeaniekramer@uwalumni.com>

Sent: Friday, June 14, 2024 11:01 AM

To: All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Kapusta-Pofahl, Karen <KKapusta-Pofahl@cityofmadison.com>; Fields, Debbie <DFields@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Table the vote ! Stop the Chicago Avenue extension

You don't often get email from jeaniekramer@uwalumni.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Common Council:

I urge you to delay (table) the vote scheduled for Tuesday night June 18th on the Starkweather LLC Plat Area Plan. The citizens of Madison have not received full transparency from the Department of City Planning and their closed-door conversations with developers. The sale of Voit Farm (3420-3614 Milwaukee Street) will not go through until the Council approves the re-zoning; the developers want this badly, or this historic natural area is of no profitable use to them. Part of the plan is to extend Chicago Avenue from North Fair Oaks across the Starkweather Creek through to the proposed housing development. Neither North Fair Oaks nor Chicago Avenue's narrow roads can sustain this level of traffic. Residents of the neighborhood have voiced these concerns time and again at Planning Committee Meetings and Public Hearings that they do not want the road extension, including significant outcry at a Planning Committee meeting in November of 2020. I urge you to read and listen to the minute notes from the Planning Committee from 11/23/2020 before making your decision

The Planning Department's actions demonstrate a lack of transparency and commitment to the citizens of Madison. The official map designation for the road extension was initially billed as a way to prevent any further expansion of the Amazon distribution site with virtually no discussion on the need to destroy someone's home. The plan for the extension then changed to a designated pedestrian/ bike path. The bike path plan was presented at several of Starkweather LLC's public engagement meetings as well as the Transportation committee meeting in the fall of 2023. Subsequently Starkweather LLC decided they wanted an actual road, apparently changing their point of view: a classic bait-and-switch.

Moreover, my home at 133 North Fair Oaks appears designated for demolition in order to build this "road-or-bike" path. The Planning Department has avoided me, cancelled meetings, failed to provide me notice of public meetings, and failed to develop alternative proposals per instruction by former Alderwoman Marsha Rummel and Former Alder Grant Foster. Yet they work closely with their developer friends, including the owners of a 112-plus unit building next door to my house: 215 N. Fair Oaks LLC, which is being built by Stonehouse LLC. Please note that Stonehouse LLC together with Threshold LLC forms Starkweather LLC. I am a nurse practitioner, a simple homeowner in a humble neighborhood.

I do not merit a seat at the table with the high rolling developers? *Is this the Madison Way?*

There has been little to no public discussion about the environmental impact of building a road through this natural area and a bridge over the creek. The residents are not being heard. This is another example of Starkweather LLC realizing even more profits building high density rentals at the expense of the natural environment, the neighborhood residents, and the citizens of Madison. Council: do not hide behind the cloak of "affordable housing = social justice." You are *not* providing sustainable quality housing with this overall plan. Please table this plan and remove the planned Chicago ave extension from the Plat Plan. Instruct City planning staff that ALL residents of the city are of at least equal, arguably greater, importance than the developers and deserve to be heard. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Jeanie Kramer
133 N. Fair Oaks Avenue
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 335-8338