

From: [Evers, Tag](#)
To: [VNA President](#); [licensing](#)
Subject: Re: VNA Comment on Regent Mart License, ALRC Agenda #18 for 8/21/24
Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 6:24:15 PM

Dear ALRC Members,

This is an unfortunate set of circumstances, one that I find highly unusual.

The applicant approached the neighborhood months ago to add outdoor seating to their current license, requesting support to change from a Class A to Class B. The applicant made no mention they wished to add hard liquor to their sales, but in an updated application, checked the box to sell liquor both on premises and carryout.

The neighborhood was clear at the time the license was originally granted that they opposed hard liquor sales. Hard liquor has never been approved for sale at this location, not at Open Pantry or any other business that operated here. Neither is hard liquor available at the Quik Trip located nearby on Monroe St. This is due to the proximity to campus and this prohibition is strongly believed by the neighborhood to be sound policy.

What's most disturbing is the applicant sought to make this change without informing the neighborhood. Nor was I informed as the alder. This in my mind constitutes a breach of trust.

The applicant claims she should be able to sell hard liquor because Festival Foods is allowed to do so. Similarly, she invokes Leopold's. But those are entirely different businesses and what they are allowed to do has no bearing on what makes sense for this business in this location.

Due to this breach of trust, the neighborhood has revoked their support of outdoor sales. Nor am I willing to support this effort. Please allow the applicant one year to operate within the parameters currently in place in the hopes that trust could be reestablished.

Please vote to deny the application for a Class B permit allowing for on-side premises consumption, thereby maintaining the current Class A license to sell beer and wine with the previously approved conditions.

Thank you.

Tag Evers
District 13 Alder

From: VNA President <vnapresident@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:43 PM
To: licensing@cityofmadison.com
Cc: Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: VNA Comment on Regent Mart License, ALRC Agenda #18 for 8/21/24

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Dear ALRC (copy Alder Evers, D13):

The Vilas Neighborhood Association (VNA) is registering in opposition to granting any Class B and Class C liquor license for the Regent Mart at 1401 Regent Street. In an email vote on 8/20-8/21, the majority of VNA Council members voted against granting any Class B or Class C license. Given the three voting options below, zero voted for option (1), one voted for

option (2), and five voted for option (3) for no Class B license and retaining the current Class A beer only license with existing conditions.

Option 1. Support the Class B combination license including hard liquor and the Class C wine license per the application as updated sometime after June 26, 2024. Include the conditions provided by the ALRC on June 26, 2024. (zero votes)

Option 2. Support a Class B license for beer only per the original application dated and signed 3/20/24 along with the conditions provided by the ALRC and agreed to by the applicant on June 26, 2024. (one vote)

Option 3. Support granting NO Class B license for this establishment and retaining the current Class A beer only license with existing conditions. (five votes)

The VNA had not previously taken a position on this application but requested referrals on 5/15/24 since no neighborhood meeting had been held and on 6/26/24 since the application had no seating plan/map and unreasonable capacity limits, among other deficiencies. Since that time, the first page of the application was changed to include hard liquor and a Class C license without notification of the neighborhood. The VNA position is opposed to granting any Class B or Class C license.

Thanks for your consideration,
-Doug Carlson, VNA President