

For the Urban Design Commission and City Staff working on the Ideal Development:

I have been a resident of the 110 block of Emerald st. in the Greenbush neighborhood for about 17 yrs, and would like to consider myself active in the neighborhood. I would like to register my opposition to the Idea development as it is presently proposed.

From the my perspective, the primary issue is the height along Drake St. Many other people, in testimony and letters, have referenced UDD 7 and the Park St. Revitalization Plan in their opposition to the 5<sup>th</sup> story, and I would agree. I also find it just a bit bizarre that there is a large step-back on Park in the latest design, the one place that a large, flat, imposing façade might be considered appropriate. Had that same negative volume been used to reduce a portion of the Drake St. frontage to 4 stories, I think that the design might be more acceptable.

The new design also features large overhangs (cornices?) at the roof line. Overhanging, in visual language, is usually used in the same breath as “jutting”, “overbearing”, and “imposing”. I think that it would be better if we could find some design solutions to allow the building to recede along the Drake St. frontage.

There are plenty of examples of nearby, profitable, high quality development going up right now that haven't needed the 5<sup>th</sup> floor to make the numbers work: Monroe St. across from Trader Joes, Monroe St. at Glenway, the apartment building behind Michael's Custard, the Wingra Clinic. Why are their neighborhoods' concerns responded to and ours are not?

Respectfully submitted,

Zaccai Lewis