

Regarding the application to the ALRC for a license to sell beer at the Atwood Avenue BP Station:

I live two blocks from the Atwood Avenue BP Station. I am adamantly opposed to the approval of a license for this gas station to sell beer.

In the past, the owners of this property agreed to a Conditional Use that required that the premises never sell alcohol. Each owner, as the property was sold to new owners, was aware of this restriction. The current owner was well aware, at the time they bought the property, that this restriction was in place. They should be held to that promise, made to the neighborhood in 2006, and not have their application for a license granted.

The Plan Commission, I believe, simply punted the issue to the ALRC because they believed it was an issue related to alcohol only. In fact, one of the applicants was the original developer of the BP station -- who agreed to the restriction in the first place.

This is not an issue of fairness: there are indeed other premises on Atwood Avenue that have licenses to sell beer and liquor. However, only this premise had its owners agree to a permanent restriction NOT to sell alcohol on the premise. The argument that others have a license and so the BP station should be allowed to have one two ignores the simple fact that the property owners made a promise to the neighborhood to NEVER sell alcohol on the premises in exchange for being able to redevelop the property in a way that fit their plans.

The owners should be held to that promise and not allowed to have their license approved.

In addition, some people suggest that, because of the lower quality beer that will be sold at the station, somehow class or race comes into play in this argument. This logic is also faulty. No other set of owners have agreed to the set of conditions that these owners have agreed to. So, other businesses that sell alcohol on Atwood Avenue are not in a similar situation: they are not restricted because they made no such promises to the neighborhood.

The SASY neighborhood has written you a letter opposing the approval of the license application. The immediate neighbors do not want this license approved.

In the face of the immediate opposition of neighbors, and the neighborhood association should the ALRC approve the application. No it should put the application on file and suggest to the owners that they continue to fulfill the promise they made to the neighborhood when they bought the property.

With regards,

mark

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