

From: Scanlon, Amy  
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 10:35 AM  
To: Scanlon, Amy  
Subject: FW: 906 Willy St.

-----Original Message-----

From: Cargo []  
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 4:59 AM  
To: Landmarks Commission  
Cc: Scanlon, Amy; Louis Fortis; Jesse Pycha-Holst; Lynn Lee; Randy Bruce; Janine Glaeser  
Subject: 906 Willy St.

Dear members of the Landmarks Commission,

I will not be able to join you tonight. (Please keep your "hallelujahs" to a reasonable decibel level.) Unfortunately, I am in London on a family vacation.

My visit here has reinforced my belief that we need to do a better job in Madison of not only protecting older structures but also strategically promote the creation of great buildings for the future, with the hopes that those future generations might appreciate them the way we do many of the buildings handed down by generations past.

Walking and bus riding around London it is clear that these people honor their great historic buildings by embracing great new architecture.

I wish that Landmarks, during the first initial meetings with the architects of the proposed 906 building, sent the clear message that if they designed something that was of high quality (both in terms of architecture and material) then there was a decent chance they would receive your approval.

Instead, they really did not get much in the way of needed feedback.

While it is hard to say, the proposed building might fall short of landmark quality; but it is closer to that goal than would be expected given the disincentives that architects often face in Madison to be creatively bold.

Finally, I have multiple times during my time here in London had the experience of coming up to a great building that are older than the oldest building in Madison by a factor of two or more. As is the usual inclination, my eye starts at the top and then travels downward. It is incredibly disheartening to see that McDonalds and KFCs and, God forbid, dozens of Starbucks, have taken up residencies in many of these grand old buildings.

Once again, the first corporate chain store that opens on Willy Street will do more to cheapen historic Willy Street than the removal of this orphaned old rental housing stock that has outlived its usefulness.

Thank you Louis Fortis for making a promise to keep the commercial space locally owned. That is a precedent we can constructively continue to build on

as we protect and nurture our historic corridor.

Enjoy your meeting and thank you for continuing the dialog!

Lindsey

Sent from my mobile phone