



## Madison Police Department

Michael C. Koval, Chief of Police

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June 24, 2019

Victor Villacrez, Senior Project Manager  
122 West Washington Avenue, Suite 350  
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. Villacrez,

I am writing you this letter in response to your request of a potential demolition proposed within the East District. The two vacant houses in question sit on Hovde Properties land located at 5781 and 5817 Cottage Grove Road. I am supportive of this initiative, and am aware that District 16 Alder Michael Tierney supports this proposal as well.

I have been informed that it was apparent some unauthorized person(s) appeared to have been staying and trespassing in one of the adjacent garages. Abandoned properties have caused problems elsewhere within this district. It is not uncommon to find squatters residing in abandoned homes or buildings and using these areas as a flop house. In other city-wide locations officers have responded to complaints regarding juvenile disturbances and vandalism, illegal dumping, criminal damage to property, and drug activity.

Having dealt with the aforementioned issues at other vacant buildings within the East District, I fear it is only a matter of time before these two properties, which are somewhat isolated, would become problematic for nearby residents and may require a police response. From a public safety interest, I recommend the demolition be approved and completed in a timely fashion.

Sincerely,

Captain Thomas M. Snyder  
East Police District  
809 S. Thompson Drive  
Madison, WI 53716

Cc: City of Madison Alder Tierney