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#### PRESIDENT & CEO:

Dr Ruben L Anthony Jr., Ph.D.

Dear Madison Common Council Members,

I am writing to encourage your support of the development proposed by Leo Ritter and Co. and Amazon for their proposed distribution center and affordable housing development at 3618-3630-3650 Milwaukee Street.

I understand that there may be some concerns regarding certain zoning issues and more broadly regarding future desires to re-purpose the site for housing. However, having reviewed their plans I believe that the benefits outweigh these concerns. This includes:

- The opportunity to bring nearly 170 jobs to the area, including managerial, driving, and other full-time, part-time, contract, and entrepreneurial opportunities. These positions all pay a minimum of \$15 per hour, with managerial positions having starting salaries of \$48,000 annually.
- An organizational commitment to career growth among their employees.
- Development of up to 180 units of workforce affordable rental housing using a financing structure that would not require local funding for subsidy and which could be a model replicated for future developments to create more affordable housing in the City of Madison.

We are pleased to see Amazon's transparency with their workforce diversity [statistics](#) (26% Black overall, 8% Black managers), and their commitment to further improving those figures ([link](#)). We were also impressed by the robust entrepreneurial development program they are developing around the transportation logistics and delivery needs ([link](#)).

If the proposed project moves forward, we are committed to working with Amazon to further our mutually shared goals in the areas referenced above. This includes:

- Assisting with the construction workforce and subcontractors needed to complete the project.
- Developing customized training programs to prepare under-served job seekers in the Madison area for the various jobs that will be created.
- Hosting hiring events to ensure Amazon's workforce recruitment efforts reach a diverse pool of candidates.
- Referring ULGM clients in need of housing to the proposed affordable workforce housing development.

Sincerely,  
Ruben L. Anthony, Jr., PhD  
President & CEO