

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Vote no to installing lights on Edgewood HS field [file #60001]  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 11:42:04 AM

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**From:** Ned Sibert <nedsibert@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 11:35:51 AM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather  
**Cc:** Evers, Tag; Mayor  
**Subject:** Vote no to installing lights on Edgewood HS field [file #60001]

To the Plan Commission:

I live a block and a half from the Edgewood campus. I have been a homeowner here for 33 years. I am strongly opposed to granting Edgewood a Conditional Use Permit to install stadium lighting on their athletic field. This is an attempt to build a stadium one step at a time, ignoring the neighborhood's decades-long, overwhelming opposition. Edgewood's athletic field is located at the very edge of its property, closer to adjacent homes than any other high school in the city of Madison. The glare from stadium lighting—and the noise that night-time field use would necessarily bring with games, tournaments and meets in many different sports—would disturb my right to peaceful evenings in my home and back yard during the spring, summer and fall.

Our community has already been forced to accept a “compromise” solution to the dispute over use of the athletic field when Edgewood's Campus Master Plan was repealed. Edgewood's use of the athletic field has historically been minimal. That changed when they resurfaced the field in 2015. They announced that the upgrade was for practice *only*, but they proceeded to host numerous competitive events after that—including 77 games and tournaments after they were served with a notice of violation by the City. All of those events were held during daytime hours, and were substantially disruptive and disturbing to my family and our neighbors, as documented by the many noise complaints. My wife works from a home office, and had to use headphones even with the windows closed in order to concentrate. Family dinners outside or with the windows open were disrupted by screaming, whistle blasts and music. Going forward, we will have to tolerate the stress of that kind of nuisance noise at random seven days a week during daylight hours once athletic events resume. Please do not give Edgewood the ability to hold night-time events also. This not an existing use, and would have a huge impact on our home lives.

In Edgewood's lawsuit against the City, they claimed they were being discriminated against because other educational institutions have stadiums. I would like to stress that of the five major high schools in the city of Madison—West, East, Memorial, La Follette and Edgewood—*only two* have stadiums: Lussier Stadium at La Follette and Mansfield Stadium at Memorial. Both have lights—but Lussier has no housing within over 1,000 feet; it backs onto a golf course. Mansfield Stadium is surrounded on 3 sides by roads and non-residential property. There are apartments close to it on one

side, but, crucially, *these were built AFTER the stadium*. Edgewood resembles neither of these. Edgewood wishes to add stadium lighting in a historic, dense residential neighborhood of mostly single-family homes. It is disingenuous to compare it to Memorial and La Follette as if they were equivalent.

My son attends West High School, which is located, like Edgewood, in a dense residential neighborhood. *It does not have a stadium or night lighting*. Neither does East High School. Both West and East use stadium facilities at Memorial, La Follette and Middleton. Sharing stadium space is currently the norm for three out of the five major high schools in Madison. *The very situation that Edgewood claims is an intolerable hardship is the norm at East and West*. If West High School were applying for stadium lights, I would be opposed on the same grounds that I oppose Edgewood's application: because the fields are simply too close to neighboring homes, and the impact on residential property owners is too great.

The majority of those supporting Edgewood's application are people who will not experience any of the negative consequences of the stadium lights. Edgewood has alumni all over the city, county and country. Please bear this in mind as you consider testimony from the two sides. The voices of neighbors whose right to "use and enjoyment" of our property is directly threatened should carry more weight than those of Edgewood supporters living elsewhere.

Please vote no to the Conditional Use Permit.

Sincerely,

Edwin Sibert  
2318 West Lawn Ave  
Madison, WI 53711

cc: Tag Evers, District 13 Alder  
Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood stadium lighting proposal  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 9:45:07 AM

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**From:** Jon standridge <jonstandridge66@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:41 AM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Edgewood stadium lighting proposal

**Plan Commission members,**

I live on Edgewood Avenue, directly across from the Edgewood Campus. I have served as president of the Vilas Neighborhood Association, served on the Edgewood Master Planning Team, and served on the Edgewood Neighborhood Liaison team for many years. In other words, I have been paying attention to Edgewood issues for many years. I have often appeared before the Plan Commission both supporting and objecting to Edgewood initiatives. I have been listening carefully to both Edgewood and the neighbors regarding the addition of lights to the High School's outdoor sports field. After careful consideration I have reached the conclusion that Edgewood's request for the lights should be denied.

As the conditional use proposal currently reads, Edgewood will be able to turn on the lights almost anytime they want. The potential noise and disruption to the neighborhood is unacceptable and will certainly substantially reduce the neighbor's use and enjoyment of their homes. I am sure it will be tempting to try and put conditions and limitations into this current lighting approval request to make it more acceptable. I do not believe the Plan Commission meeting is the place to do this. Edgewood should be told to go back, listen to neighborhood concerns and come back with a well thought out compromise proposal.

In summary I urge you to reject Edgewood's request to add permanent stadium lighting to their playing field.

**Jon Standridge**  
**1011 Edgewood Ave.**  
**Madison WI 53711**  
Cell, 608-669-8770

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood Lights  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 7:41:22 AM

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**From:** Tim Sweeney <sweeney.tc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 05, 2020 4:01 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Edgewoo Lights

This is in SUPPORT of Edgewood's lighting application. The lights comply with ordinances and present standards. They are significantly more environmentally friendly than what exists at Memorial, LaFollette and Breeze Stevens (East H.S.'s home field). The field has been there since the 1930's, before many of the neighbor's houses were even built, and before any of the present neighbors purchased their homes.

Timothy C. Sweeney  
Sherwood Road  
Madison, Wisconsin



**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood Stadium -- I OPPOSE!  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 7:39:57 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**From:** Sydney Tardrew <sydney.tardrew@my.rfums.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 05, 2020 11:09 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Edgewood Stadium -- I OPPOSE!

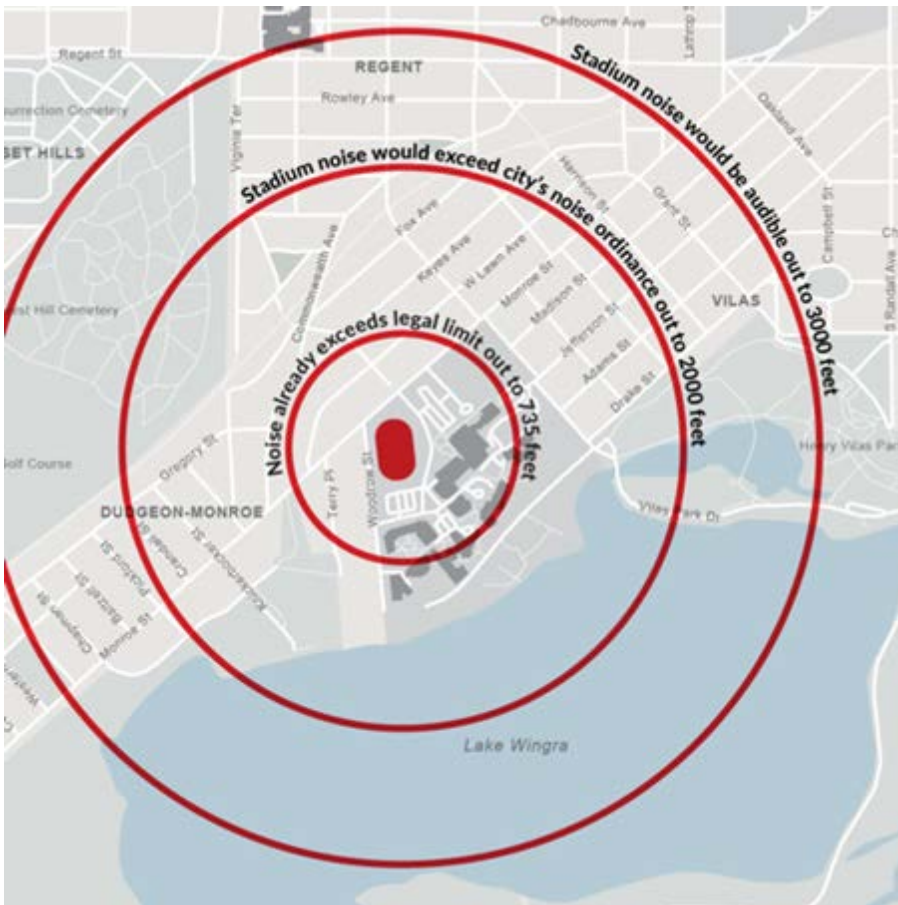
Hello,

As a longtime resident of the Dudgeon-Monroe neighborhood (since 2000) I have been open to many changes within our community. This is one change I vehemently oppose.

If Edgewood's lighting permit is approved, myself and 1000's of my neighbors can plan on noise through the night as well as during the day. Noise levels exceeding 70dB will affect large areas of the Dudgeon-Monroe, Vilas and Greenbush communities.

What will it sound like? Levels will vary throughout an event but we can expect to experience audio comparable to:

- a chainsaw or power mower (80-90dB) for those living within the smallest circle
- a vacuum cleaner (70dB) for those living within the middle circle
- Audible over the sounds of nature or spoken conversation (50dB) for those living 3000 feet away



Noise levels will interfere with conversations even if windows are closed! There are families with small children who will be unable to put their children to bed due to the nighttime games.

The World Health Organization (WHO) guideline value for nighttime noise in a sustainable urban setting is 40dB! This is FAR above the recommended level of nighttime noise.

Sky glow from the field lights would impact everywhere on this map.

If you think we should let the kids play, think again. Edgewood is legally permitted to play day games and that should be enough. See below video for the impact of a stadium on another community in the U.S. similar to that of Madison.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVutvv5VKas>

I urge you to do what you can to stop this, please!

Best,  
 Sydney Tardrew  
 850 Woodrow St.  
 Madison, WI, 53711

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**Sydney Tardrew PAS-1**  
 Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science

p: 608-332-9630

e: [sydney.tardrew@my.rfums.org](mailto:sydney.tardrew@my.rfums.org)

**From:** [ERIC TEDUITS](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 05, 2020 10:50:55 PM

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I feel Edgewood should be allowed a permit to have lighting just like the other public high school.

Thanks,

Eric teDuits

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Duane Wagner](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood High School  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 05, 2020 6:08:59 PM

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I support the improvements asked for at the Edgewood High School athletic field.  
I have lived in the neighborhood for 36 years and raised a family here. It is important all students to have access to an athletic facility for games.

Thank you,

Duane Wagner

**From:** [Duane Wagner](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood High School  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 05, 2020 6:12:44 PM

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Please note my support of the Edgewood High School request for athletic field improvements.

Judy Wagner

**From:** [Jay Bruner](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 1:35:31 PM

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I am writing in support of Edgewood High School's request to add lights to their athletic field and host sports events there.

I believe that High School Sports are very important to the well being of the youth of America. It builds teamwork, healthy relationships, fosters School Pride and I consider it to be a benefit to the entire community.

I live in the Edgewood /Vilas neighborhood only blocks away from Edgewood and would welcome a positive activity near our home. I see no detriment to staging such events.

Additionally these events would have a positive effect on the local businesses in the Monroe Street area who have suffered quite a bit of financial loss in the past 2 years first with Monroe St reconstruction and now the Covid 19 virus! Wouldn't it be a good thing to help them by bringing in persons to dine and shop in their establishments.

Please approve the Edgewood request and take a step forward for Madison!

Sincerely, Jay Bruner  
815 Garfield St

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***Jay Bruner***

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**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: EHS application does NOT meet CUP standards  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 2:46:08 PM

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**From:** Evers, Tag  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 2:42 PM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: EHS application does NOT meet CUP standards

Please add to the file.

Thanks.

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Tag Evers

**DISTRICT 13 ALDER**  
CITY OF MADISON  
(608) 424-2580  
[district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com)

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**From:** Yael Gen <[mizgen@gmail.com](mailto:mizgen@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 1:53 PM  
**To:** Evers, Tag  
**Subject:** EHS application does NOT meet CUP standards

Dear Tag,

Thank you for your participation during this crisis. It is incredibly stressful even for those of us lucky enough to be working remotely in our own homes.

The Edgewood High School application does not meet the CUP standards.

No application for a conditional use shall be granted by the Plan Commission unless it finds that all of the following conditions are present: *(including these)*

- The establishment, maintenance or operation of the conditional use will not be detrimental to or endanger the **public health, safety, or general welfare.**
- **The uses, values and enjoyment of other property in the neighborhood for purposes already established will not be substantially impaired or diminished in any foreseeable manner.**

The noise levels proposed by EHS exceed the 40dB nighttime noise values recommended by the World Health Organization for sustainable urban settings. The installation of lights on this campus field in such close proximity to homes and the Lake Wingra watershed does not meet the approval standards.

[Research shows that introducing lights](#) and the [accompanying loud noise](#) can have a significant impact on **human health**, as well as damaging ecosystems and diminishing the intrinsic value of the community.

It is certain that **traffic and parking** will be a problem. It is already well-established that there is not



enough parking available for the campus as evidenced by no vacant spaces on adjoining streets when school is in session.

Personally, we will lose the **enjoyment and use** of the screened-in porch in front of our house and the deck — which we added on as an improvement — in the back. It is not possible to have a conversation when there is a game on the field. The noise influenced my decision to shutter my freelance design business in January and take on more hours at the University. It was too difficult conduct client phone calls and virtual presentations not knowing when we would be drowned out by game noise. My home office is at the back of my house. On the second floor. I shouldn't have to wear headphones in my own home.

In addition, I am puzzled as to why the city would reward a pattern of bullying and deceit.

First the field was the compromise. EHS promised it was "just a practice field."

EHS played games in violation of the ZBA decision.

EHS jettisoned the master plan agreement.

Now, unlimited day games is the compromise.

EHS cries "let the kids play."

The kids can play. All. Day. Long.

And until the pandemic closed the field, they did.

They said "treat us like the public schools."

Go ahead.

Even though they are not a public school. They don't have the same rules as a public school. They charge tuition and can reject any student they please. But that aside, only two of the five comparable schools in the city of Madison — East and West— do not have stadiums and will never get them. Why? Because they are in densely populated areas where private residences are immediately adjacent to the fields. Memorial is the only exception and the apartment complex that is in close proximity was built AFTER the stadium was established. So, yes, treat them like our public schools.

I am also concerned as to the future of the "athletic complex" should EHS fail. They already have dwindling enrollment and much is uncertain in our economy. They could use the athletic complex as a revenue generator. Lease it out. Sell it. There will be a new board and new city government. The lights are a Pandora's Box. Stadium lights will bring stadium problems. We already have one stadium on Monroe Street. We surely do not need another.

The Plan Commission should vote NO on the lights.

Thank you. Wishing you continued good health,

Yael Gen

860 Woodrow Street

*(less than 500 feet from the field)*

References:

EHS presentation: <https://www.dmna.org/images/goodmanathleticcomplexpresentation10-18.pdf>

Noise sources and their effects: <https://www.chem.purdue.edu/chemsafety/Training/PPETrain/dblevels.htm>

WHO: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/276001/9789241550376-eng.pdf>

American Medical Association: [https://www.darksky.org/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/AMA\\_Report\\_2016\\_60.pdf](https://www.darksky.org/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/AMA_Report_2016_60.pdf)

Is Noise Pollution the Next Big Public health Crisis: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2019/05/13/is-noise-pollution-the-next-big-public-health-crisis>

**From:** [Meyer, Karla](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood's lighting application  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 12:17:33 PM

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Please support Edgewood's application to have lights on their athletic field just like the other Madison schools. Signed George Meyer

**From:** [Meyer, Karla](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood High School's Lighting Application  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 12:17:29 PM

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I strongly believe that Edgewood should be able to have lights on its field. Please support their application to have lights. Respectfully, Karleen Meyer

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: No New Edgewood Stadium  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 2:45:45 PM

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**From:** Evers, Tag  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 2:42 PM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <[HStouder@cityofmadison.com](mailto:HStouder@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Subject:** Fw: No New Edgewood Stadium

Not sure if this was sent to Plan Commission.

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Tag Evers

**DISTRICT 13 ALDER**  
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(608) 424-2580  
[district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com)

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**From:** Emma Minkoff <[minkoff.emma@gmail.com](mailto:minkoff.emma@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 2:39 PM  
**To:** All Alders  
**Subject:** No New Edgewood Stadium

Hello,

As a longtime resident of the Dudgeon-Monroe neighborhood, I have been open to many changes within our community. This is one change I vehemently oppose.

If Edgewood's lighting permit is approved, myself and 100's of my neighbors can plan on noise through the night as well as during the day. Noise levels exceeding 70dB will affect large areas of the Dudgeon-Monroe, Vilas and Greenbush communities.

What will it sound like? Levels will vary throughout an event but we can expect to experience audio comparable to:

- a chainsaw or power mower (80-90dB) for those living within the smallest circle
- a vacuum cleaner (70dB) for those living within the middle circle
- Audible over the sounds of nature or spoken conversation (50dB) for those living 3000 feet away

Noise levels will interfere with conversations even if windows are closed! There are families with small children who will be unable to put their children to bed due to the nighttime games.

The World Health Organization (WHO) guideline value for nighttime noise in a sustainable urban setting is 40dB! This is FAR above the recommended level of nighttime noise.

Sky glow from the field lights would impact everywhere on this map.

If you think we should let the kids play, think again. Edgewood is legally permitted to play day games and that should be enough. See below video for the impact of a stadium on another community in the U.S. similar to that of Madison.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVutvv5VKas>

I urge you to do what you can to stop this.

Best,

Emma

phone: 608.658.3161

**From:** Beth Steffen  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** support for Edgewood High School's lights petition  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 1:13:06 PM

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I am writing in support of Edgewood's lights petition.

In my second year as principal at Edgewood, I have attended plan commission meetings, city council meetings, and have followed the publicity about Edgewood's request for lights with avid interest.

Before joining Edgewood's faculty, I worked at La Follette High School for 17 years and lived in the Elvehjem neighborhood. I was part of La Follette's faculty when Lussier Stadium was built in 2002-3 and have that point of comparison to Edgewood's current situation. I have been very surprised, actually a bit shocked, by the rabid opposition of Edgewood's neighbors to the lights petition.

Edgewood High School is sponsored and overseen by a progressive and conscientious order of nuns, the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, not by a ruthless developer. Edgewood High School's athletic facility may host home sporting events several dozen nights a year-- between 5-10% of the nights in a year. Most of those events will wrap up between 9 and 10 pm. The purported disruption to the neighborhood by EHS events is almost funny given the modest size of our soccer and lacrosse crowds.

And as for football, we host five or six games a year. They're done by the end of October, before the clocks are set back for daylight savings time.

As principal, I visit every teacher's class many times a year. On the first day of school in August, I went out to the field to watch a phy ed class. Three young men were already on the field when our students and their teacher went out to the field, and none of them were EHS students. I asked them if they went to West and they said they did and that they wanted to run on our track. I said they were welcome. My brother and sister are both West graduates, and I student taught there. The space constraints for parking at West, which is surrounded by cemeteries and homes, are a constant thorn in the West population's side. Comparing West to Edgewood to make the argument that West has no stadium, and Edgewood doesn't need one either is a gratuitous comparison. Edgewood has a field and has for a century. Edgewood is a faithful community member. Edgewood's lights request is reasonable and I hope you'll grant it.

Thank you,  
Beth Steffen

--

Beth Steffen, Principal

Edgewood High School of the Sacred Heart

[2219 Monroe Street](#)

[Madison, WI 53711](#)

"Conversations will not be cancelled.

Relationships will not be cancelled.

Love will not be cancelled.

Songs will not be cancelled.

Reading will not be cancelled.

Self-care will not be cancelled.

Hope will not be cancelled."

(James Tworkowski, quoted by Sister Colleen Settles, OP)

**From:** [Mary Beth Arnold](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 8:16:56 PM

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Dear Commission,  
Please vote "Yes" to turn on the lights at Edgewood High School. Let the kids play!  
Thank you so much.  
Mary Beth Arnold  
Mbarnold5502@gmail.com  
608-358-1801

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Kathy Balczewski](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Lights for Edgewood HS athletic field  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 10:41:16 PM

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I would like to express my wish for the approval of the application for Edgewood HS to put lights on their athletic field. Please vote in favor of their application.

Thank you,  
Kathy Balczewski

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Wally Block](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** In support of Edgewood HS proposal  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 11:57:15 PM

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Dear Planning Commission Members:

I live just blocks away from Edgewood HS. I continue to believe the lights at Edgewood HS would add to our neighborhood and the strength of Monroe Street and so I support their proposal. When the coronavirus eventually winds its course, Monroe Street and city tax revenues are going to need new sources of activity to fuel our restaurants and shops. Edgewood will be a component of that, although a lot smaller than the impact of visitors generated by the University and its sports teams. After 7 weeks of quarantine, I'm thinking of how exciting it will be to see any game played there, be it soccer, lacrosse or football.

The SW bike path and neighborhood ice rinks like the one across from my house were all criticized during their planning stages for bringing in traffic and disruption. Now they are seen as clearly enhancing property values. I believe the same benefits will accrue from our proximity to a vibrant athletic field.

Sincerely,  
Wally Block  
426 Hillington Way  
Madison

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Opposition to Edgewood's Lighting Proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 7:09:33 AM

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**From:** Evers, Tag  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 11:02:20 PM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather  
**Subject:** Fwd: Opposition to Edgewood's Lighting Proposal

Please add to the file.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nicole Broekema <nmbroekema@gmail.com>  
**Date:** May 6, 2020 at 9:36:15 PM CDT  
**To:** All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject: Opposition to Edgewood's Lighting Proposal**

Dear Madison Alders,

We live within a 100 ft radius of the Edgewood football field. We are strongly opposed to the proposal to add lights to the athletic field.

We have a young child under 2 years old. Our child naps every afternoon and goes to bed before 7 pm each evening. The lighting and noise associated with Edgewood's proposal would interrupt his sleep. The importance of sleep for young children is well documented, with lack of sleep affecting his daily schedule, behavior, attention, and learning. Simply put, Edgewood's proposal would have a dramatic adverse impact on our family.

Edgewood suggests that their plans for lighting and an eventual PA system are designed to minimize impact on the neighborhood, but their plans consistently ignore the crowd noise associated with their sporting events. Over the past year, the noise of the cheering crowds for soccer and lacrosse has filled our house--the noise is disruptive when the windows are open or closed. The noise of traffic on Monroe Street is mild compared to the noise coming from sporting events at Edgewood's field. So far, most crowds for Edgewood sporting events have been small--less than 100 people. The larger crowds of bigger night games would be far louder and far more disruptive.

We purchased our home on Monroe Street in October 2015. In June of 2015, Edgewood renovated their athletic field. Edgewood President Mike Elliot said in

a quote to the Wisconsin State Journal, "We're between two neighborhood associations. They have been vehemently opposed to us having lights or playing games here. We're really building this to be able to give our athletes the practice facilities that provide the best surfaces possible and to expand the amount of outdoor practices we can hold especially in the spring." (Wisconsin State Journal, June 15, 2015) This quote was a factor in purchasing our home, as it suggests that Edgewood recognized and respected the opinions of the neighborhood. In contrast to his statement to the Wisconsin State Journal, Mr. Elliot is now claiming that it has long been Edgewood's goal to play football games and host other nighttime athletic events on their field. It is now clear to us that Edgewood intended to add lights and, eventually, a sound system to its athletic field this whole time. Their piecemeal approach is obviously designed to circumvent interaction with the neighborhood association.

One of Edgewood's main arguments for why they should have a field is that they should be treated fairly and equally. On this point, we agree--the nearest public high school, West, plays football and other night games at an off-campus field. East does too. Therefore, the notion that Edgewood deserves to play its games on its campus is not based on fair or equal treatment but rather on a preference. Edgewood's preference does not outweigh the strong reduction on the quality of life of its neighbors.

For these reasons, we are opposed to Edgewood's plan to add lights and a sound system to its athletic field. We ask that the Planning Commission reject their application.

Sincerely,

Jacob Notbohm  
Nicole Broekema  
Homeowners and Madison Residents  
2314 Monroe St, Madison, WI

**From:** [Diane](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood Education Field  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 10:42:00 PM

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Good evening Mayor,

Just want to share my support for the Edgewood Athletic Field improvements. It is a great school with a long history of 139 years, and thousands of graduates who have been taught to get involved in community service and volunteer opportunities.

I have always been a teacher, first in special ed, then music, and for the past 20 years I have been the aviation teacher at Edgewood. I love my students! I am an EHS grad, and so are my 3 kids, and I know the value of a quality community education. Sports is a terrific education stream for students, teaching them team cooperation, communication, reliance and recognition of diverse skills, the value of practice and hard work, and of course building team spirit.

The lighting and sounds has been modified to have minimal impact on neighbors. We already have sufficient parking. Games would not be late night events, and do not include alcohol as do the UW events. It really makes sense for this field to be a part of the Edgewood campus and shows proper and appropriate planning and negotiations with the neighborhood.

I was the person responsible for saving Morey Airport in Middleton and making it a community asset, even though people complained about the noise impact and land use. here is a long list of the economic and education impact that Morey Airport has made. **Good** neighbors must admit the benefits and logic of such resources. There are so many similarities in these two projects, and hope the City Council is smart enough to realize the benefits.

Please support Edgewood and encourage others to do the same. It is truly a waste of time and energy to continue this struggle, when the total purpose of any school is to offer all the best opportunities to students and build a better community. That's what Edgewood has **always** done, and will continue to do!

Stay well, and be healthy,

Diane Ballweg  
350 S Hamilton Street  
Madison, Wi. 53703

**From:** [Amie Dragoo](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood Lighting  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 8:05:54 PM

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*Hello,*

*I'm am writing today to ask for your support on the vote on Tuesday evening, May 11th at the Madison Plan Commission regarding the vote on the request for a lighting permit for Edgewood High School to add lights to its Athletic field. I really hope for your support for the high school students that have attended, who currently attend, and will attend this school, those very same students that have done so much and will do so much, for our community over the years and for years to come! I am asking as a proud parent of a current student and three graduates of this school that will have much to offer to their communities as they grow into young adults.*

*Thank you!*

*Amie Dragoo*

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood As Neighbor  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 6:29:28 AM

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

From: Gail <[gail\\_glasser@yahoo.com](mailto:gail_glasser@yahoo.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 06, 2020 12:38 PM  
To: Planning <[planning@cityofmadison.com](mailto:planning@cityofmadison.com)>; Mayor <[Mayor@cityofmadison.com](mailto:Mayor@cityofmadison.com)>; All Alders <[allalders@cityofmadison.com](mailto:allalders@cityofmadison.com)>; Evers, Tag <[district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com)>  
Subject: Edgewood As Neighbor

LOUD PIPES SAVE LIVES says a bumper sticker on a big pickup truck. One of my brothers nods in agreement with this statement. I ask him what else trucks and their exhaust systems might do to save lives; he says I'm missing the point.

No, I'm not.

There are other considerations. A truck's driver has responsibilities for respectful and protective behavior. Edgewood has a big truck that has been respectfully operated in the landscape and in the community for a long time.

Please help Edgewood understand—using your words—that respectful operation can be a better plan for them than the loud-pipes option.

Gail Glasser

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jackie Hayes](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 6:27:22 PM

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Jackie and Hugh Hayes

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Sneaky Edgewood  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 6:28:10 AM

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**From:** HEIDI PFANKUCHEN GOTTMAN <hgottman@wisc.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 1:31 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Sneaky Edgewood

I see that the stadium plan that Edgewood requested is up for approval on May 11, 2020. I strongly oppose approval of the unrestricted night games with lights. The school is taking advantage of the Covid19 crisis to put one over on the neighbors who have been steadfast in their objection to the plan. Please do not approve under any circumstances.

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: May 11, 2020 scheduled meeting RE: Conditional Use Permit Application Edgewood HS Stadium Lights  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 6:27:47 AM

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**From:** Karen Jaehnig <karenj721@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 1:48 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Cc:** All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** May 11, 2020 scheduled meeting RE: Conditional Use Permit Application Edgewood HS Stadium Lights

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing again to express my opposition to the Edgewood HS request to install stadium lights. It is well established that the neighborhood opposes this and there are many reasons. The noise levels and lights are not compatible in a neighborhood where the property lines are so close to the stadium. I also have concerns about the environmental impact on the sensitive Lake Wingra habitat.

Edgewood HS and its supporters have mounted a campaign and their voices are from all over the county and even across the country. The people who are most directly affected by these proposed changes should have a strong voice, as they will be drastically impacted. West HS is less than one mile away and does not have a stadium. Edgewood could build a facility in a less densely populated area, since most of their students do not live in this neighborhood anyway. The fact that 75+ games were played in 2019 despite the zoning violation leads me to distrust their intentions.

This is a terrible time for Edgewood to be asking for this unlimited nighttime use permit. Our efforts should be focused on this pandemic and helping those in our community who are suffering. We shouldn't have to keep writing these same letters.

Sincerely,

Karen Jaehnig  
Dudgeon-Monroe resident  
725 Copeland St.  
Madison, WI 53711

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Edgewood Stadium Lights  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 6:29:38 AM

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**From:** Leah Johnson <leahjohnson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 12:33 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Edgewood Stadium Lights

To the city plan commission, city council, Alder Tag Evers and Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway

As a Greenbush resident just down the road from Edgewood, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the school's application for a conditional use permit for lighting and I urge you to oppose it as well.

I have a number of concerns, which likely echo what you have heard from other neighbors.

- This is a terrible time to decide on such a high impact request with long term consequences. Our community is surviving a crisis. Neighbors cannot meet and regular means of communication are impeded. Edgewood has done nothing to engage the community on this new request and it seems like they are trying to pull a fast one during a pandemic.
- I have heard concerning things about neighbors not being able to obtain open records requests (lobbying forms, etc) from the city before this hearing. That is unacceptable. We can't take time to hold hearings without all the information available to the community.
- The negative impact on neighborhood quality of life due to crowd noise, amplified sound and bright lights.
- The complete lack of guardrails for lighting, sound and frequency of games. As I understand it, the conditional use permit would allow for unlimited night games, lighting and sound, which is totally unacceptable in such a residential area. This leaves neighbors with no recourse in their own homes.
- The negative impact on wildlife and Lake Wingra's unique environment.
- Edgewood's erosion of neighborhood trust and history of bait and switch - this year's request is even more outrageous than last year. And going further back, the common understanding and documented master plan outlined the field would be for practices only and would not include lights or sound. Neighborhood opposition to a stadium is long-standing and well-documented.
- Edgewood's recent violations. They illegally played games and held events all throughout 2019 and were cited by the city with absolutely no consequences. Why should we ever believe they will respect the neighborhood and community with that track record? And why did the city not take action on these illegal practices?

In summary, I do not think the planning commission should even be hearing this request right now, without the means of neighborhood engagement and without all the relevant documentation available to the public. If the matter is heard, as a resident of the neighborhood, I strongly oppose the conditional use permit.

Respectfully,

Leah Johnson  
1130 Chandler St

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vote no installing lights on the Edgewood High School field [file #60001]  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 6:29:02 AM

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**From:** Aj Johnson <ajgardener3x7@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 1:07 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Vote no installing lights on the Edgewood High School field [file #60001]

The installation of lights on this campus field in such close proximity to homes and the Lake Wingra watershed is a mistake. Lights will allow the school to use the field continuously. Paired with the amplified sound that will accompany events, it introduces a health hazard and diminishes the intrinsic value of the community.

Please vote no.

Thank you,

I am also sending you a picture taken from my bedroom window of the Edgewood field. In the middle of a pandemic that is threatening our state, country, and world, I am asking you to vote no on the Edgewood request for lights. One of the reasons I am asking you to vote no is because the lights, noise, and sound that go with this proposal not only pose a health threat to me and my family, but it threatens the well-being of our unique neighborhood too. In addition we are close to UW Arboretum that is home to wildlife and their health and well-being is threatened as well. I wonder if you can put yourself in my shoes and say that you would be fine to have lights and all that goes with it just across the street from you!

Alta and Tim Johnson  
2264 Monroe St.  
Madison, WI 53711

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood's permit application for night games  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 9:26:24 AM

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**From:** Meg Lamm <meglamm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 8:10 AM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Edgewood's permit application for night games

Dear City Planners,

I am writing to express my opposition to Edgewood being granted a permit to have games in their stadium at night. The lights and noise would greatly disturb the neighbors of Edgewood - especially those living across the street from the new stadium but also those further away in the surrounding neighborhoods. There doesn't seem to be much, if any, benefit to the greater community in allowing these night games, and there are significant downsides.

Sincerely,

Meg Lamm  
Vilas Neighborhood

Meg Lamm  
[meglamm@gmail.com](mailto:meglamm@gmail.com)

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood Lighting  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 6:29:20 AM

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**From:** Patricia Liebl <patliebl@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 12:52 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Edgewood Lighting

I am opposed to the lighting request from Edgewood campus both out of consideration for the Vilas neighborhood and the precedent it would set. Neither East High or West have an athletic field on their premise for games and if they did that would be very objectionable to their neighborhoods. As a private school they should not be given special privileges

Patricia Liebl, 3938 Plymouth circle, 53705

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Edgewood High School conditional use  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 9:37:42 AM

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**From:** Jim Lorman <jimlorman1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 9:37 AM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Cc:** Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Edgewood High School conditional use

I encourage the Plan Commission to reject Edgewood High School's conditional use application for stadium lights. I live far enough away that we would not be directly affected at our home, but I (and many others in the Greenbush Neighborhood) believe the proposed night uses of a stadium are not appropriate for any neighborhood like the one surrounding it. Nor is it appropriate for the otherwise generally quiet natural oasis provided by Lake Wingra, Edgewood Park & Pleasure Drive, Wingra Park, and Vilas Park – the exceptional qualities of which would all be greatly disturbed by the proposed use.

Further, as a long-term member of the larger Edgewood campus (more than 35 years at Edgewood College), and someone who has closely followed the High School's long-term effort to build a football stadium since well before the Campus Master Plan, during the Master Plan process, and the subsequent successful efforts to withdraw from that Master Plan – I have been continually appalled at the High School leadership's lack of good faith (and what can only be reasonably described as bullying behavior) in working with the neighborhood and the City, including their frivolous lawsuit against the City. It would be disappointing for many people if such bad behavior were rewarded, and an unfortunate precedent for others. The High School should not be allowed any further disruption of the neighborhood and surrounding natural areas.

Thanks,

Jim Lorman  
515 Wingra Street



**From:** [Andrew Mayer](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 6:04:21 PM

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**From:** [Barb Meriggioli](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood lighting application  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 7:21:38 PM

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Plan Commission,

As proud Edgewood parents for the last 10 years, we are in full support of the Edgewood High School lighting project. We understand that Edgewood's lighting application meets the city ordinance, and we ask that you also support the application by voting YES!

Sincerely,

Nick & Barb Meriggioli

From: [Elizabeth Smith](#) on behalf of [Elizabeth Smith](#)  
To: [Clayton Miller](#)  
Subject: FW: I-49 Express's permit application for right-of-way  
Date: Thursday, May 07, 2020 4:27 AM EDT

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

-----Original Message-----  
From: Tom Norberg <tnorberg@juno.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 06, 2020 2:14 PM  
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>

Re: Edgewood's permit application for lights at the stadium

I am opposed to this. I would prefer keeping it dark and quiet at night.

Please let the wildlife and the neighbors see

Tom Nordberg

2628 Van Hise Ave.  
Madison, WI 53706

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[illegible]

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood application to install stadium lights  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 9:26:13 AM

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**From:** Susan O'Leary <orfam1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 9:10 AM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Edgewood application to install stadium lights

Dear members of the Planning Commission,

I am writing in opposition to Edgewood's application for a conditional use permit to install stadium lights.

I live one block from the stadium on West Lawn Avenue. One of the criteria for denying the permit, that the use, value and enjoyment of my property for purposes already established will be diminished and impaired if this permit is granted, applies particularly to my home and block.

I could further list disruptions of the neighborhood if Edgewood is allowed, in the absence now of a Master Plan, to install lights, there is a larger issue of how Edgewood has proceeded with its proposed changes to the field.

Though at the meeting where the Edgewood Master Plan was repealed, the Mayor urged both parties to come together and compromise, Edgewood has refused to meet in good faith with the long-standing Edgewood/Neighborhood Liaison Committee. Edgewood even went so far as to stop inviting our Alder to liaison committee meetings. Though Alder Evers asked them to hold back this application while we all are under stay at home orders, they are pushing through their request in the midst of a pandemic.

I have lived a block from Edgewood for over 30 years now. I remember when Edgewood and neighbor relations were respectful and friendly – both sides appreciative of what the other side brought to the neighborhood. I am truly saddened at the effect of the bullying tactics the Edgewood administration is using.

Please do not grant Edgewood's application for a conditional use permit to install stadium lights.

Susan O'Leary  
2220 West Lawn Avenue



**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: May 11, 2020 Edgewood Lighting Proposal - Vote NO  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 6:26:29 AM

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**From:** Maria Rattunde <maria.rattunde@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 8:47 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** May 11, 2020 Edgewood Lighting Proposal - Vote NO

Dear Mayor, Planning Commission and Alders.

I am writing to ask you to: please vote NO to Edgewood's request to allow fixed lighting on the sports field.

My husband and I both went to Edgewood High school. We moved onto Woodrow Street in 1991, the field is basically in our front yard. We value our neighborhood and fear it will lose its charm should the fixed lighting be allowed on the field. Please consider the following and vote NO to Edgewood's request.

- Please review Edgewood's reference photo with the goal post, its height is 30' tall.
  - Each proposed light will be 65' or 80' tall. They will be dominating permanent eyesores.
- Although Edgewood believes there is no environmental impact, "light pollution" contradicts that. Human wildlife is not a good substitute for animal wildlife.
- Edgewood is a neighborhood school that does not want to work with its neighbors.
- Although games have been played on the field for a very long time, lights and a sound system are an afterthought that will negatively impact the neighborhood. Please remember the technology did not exist when the games were first played on that field!
- Please do not use the COVID-19 as an excuse to say yes because crowds will not be able to gather; only consider using it to defer your vote.

Thank you for your time and consideration in keeping the quality of our neighborhood.

Sincerely.

Maria Rattunde  
838 Woodrow St  
Madison, WI 53711

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Conditional Use Permit- 2219 Monroe St (Edgewood HS stadium lights)  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 6:26:40 AM

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**From:** Don Sanford <dpsanford@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 7:59 PM  
**To:** Parks, Timothy <TParks@cityofmadison.com>  
**Cc:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Conditional Use Permit- 2219 Monroe St (Edgewood HS stadium lights)

To: City of Madison Plan Commission, Staff , Mayor and Alders  
Re: Conditional Use Permit- 2219 Monroe St (EHS stadium lights)  
Date: 6 May 2020

I am writing to voice my opposition to granting of a conditional use permit for the installation of outdoor sports lighting at the Goodman Athletic Complex at Edgewood High School on Monroe Street.

I am arrive at this opinion from more than four decades as a professional lighting designer and outdoor lighting consultant. The bulk of my career was spent in film and television production.

For the past twenty years I have consulted, written and lectured on Light Trespass—a problem that effects all of us in so many (often subtle) ways.

Informed by that experience I can say in no uncertain terms that the addition of lighting on the athletic field at Edgewood High School will have a profound, oppressive and negative impact on the quality of life for those with properties adjacent to the Edgewood High School field.

Outdoor lighting, no matter how well it's designed, is difficult to control. Physics tells us that light reflects, no matter what the surface or how well it is aimed. That reflected light creates a glow that relentlessly works its way into the living rooms, front porches, bedrooms and kitchens of homes on Woodrow and Monroe Streets. Furthermore, uncontrolled light will glare into the eyes of motorists on public streets creating unsafe conditions.

The installation will be using full cutoff fixtures and those will limit some of this glare.

However, due to the difference in elevation between the adjacent streets and the playing field, light from the fixtures mounted on poles of any height at that field will create unpleasant and offensive glare for neighboring properties.

For those unfortunate neighbors, it will seem like daytime in their homes whenever the lighting system is used at the Edgewood High School field.

I urge the plan commission to reject this application.

Sincerely,

Donald P. Sanford  
1211 Garfield St.  
Madison 53711

Donald Sanford

[dpsanford@charter.net](mailto:dpsanford@charter.net)  
608-225-7520



**From:** [Beth Schramka](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 6:02:40 PM

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**From:** [Terri Schramka](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 5:23:57 PM

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I would like to express my support for the lighting at Edgewood's athletic field. As a Madison resident and Edgewood alumni I support the lighting project and hope that you will all do the same. I think it is important that you allow equal and fair treatment to the Edgewood Athletic Complex . Thanks.

Terri Schramka

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood Stadium lights  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 11:42:04 AM

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**From:** Evers, Tag  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 11:32 AM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Edgewood Stadium lights

Please include in the file.

---

Tag Evers

**DISTRICT 13 ALDER**  
CITY OF MADISON  
(608) 424-2580  
[district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com)

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**From:** Jane Corkery <[jcorkery@wisbar.org](mailto:jcorkery@wisbar.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** All Alders  
**Subject:** Edgewood Stadium lights

Dear Alders:

I have been a long term resident of the Vilas neighborhood and I have witnessed multiple attempts by Edgewood to increase their stadium facility on their campus. I do not live close enough to the campus to probably be significantly affected by the lights or any potential noise created by a large crowd, but I am curious as to the effect of a stadium located at that point on Monroe Street would have on street traffic.

Edgewood has submitted an application for lighting at the new practice field but this may be the first step in a series to increase their practice field to a stadium. There has been discussion of developing a stadium with seating capacity for 1000.

The Edgewood campus is located on Monroe Street and after 5:30 p.m. on-street parking is permissible on most blocks of Monroe Street and on both sides of the street for many blocks. With parking on both sides of the street, Monroe Street then becomes a 2-lane street. With the stop light on Monroe street at the intersection into the campus parking lot, traffic into a stadium event at this location could be very heavy and could create significant bottlenecks. Monroe Street is often heavily used to get to evening events at the Kohl Center and field house and could become very congested if events at these locations coincided with Edgewood events. Has traffic considerations

been taken into consideration?

Also, with street parking available right on Monroe Street, would attendees of Edgewood stadium events utilize the street parking rather than pulling into the parking lot? This would mean pedestrians exiting and entering their cars on the street in the midst of traffic. Edgewood had reported that the campus provides 500 spots but has this figure been verified? Edgewood's transparency has been inconsistent throughout this project. And would Edgewood event attendees want to pull into the campus if it appears that there are spots on the street that may be more easily accessible than the campus lots and easier to leave from when the event has ended?

If Edgewood develops a large stadium at its campus, has it been explored what the stadium will be used for? Will there be limits to Edgewood events or will it be rented for other organization's events to create revenue for Edgewood? How would this be controlled and would Monroe Street which is functionally a 2-lane street have the capacity for an unknown number of events?

Also, as a parent of West High graduates, I have witnessed West High's Athletic department accommodate the scheduling of practice space and space for games for far more sports teams and high school athletes than Edgewood needs to accommodate. These schools are neighbors in an urban area. I do not understand the need for Edgewood to have a stadium facility onsite in their urban campus.

Sincerely:

Jane Corkery

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Oppose the EHS lighting application  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 11:40:03 AM

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**From:** Evers, Tag  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 11:31 AM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Oppose the EHS lighting application

Please include in the file.

Thanks.

---

Tag Evers

**DISTRICT 13 ALDER**  
CITY OF MADISON  
(608) 424-2580  
[district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com)

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**From:** Liz Lusk <[lizlusk51@gmail.com](mailto:lizlusk51@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 10:56 AM  
**To:** All Alders  
**Subject:** Oppose the EHS lighting application

To the City Council,

What is the cost of losing the character of a neighborhood?

The first day I came to Madison, in the summer of 1973 I inadvertently drove the Park and Pleasure Drive just behind Edgewood. *We know what this really is is a linear park, a place of serenity and well-being. An especially treasured place in the time of bird migration.* I was newly married and dragging a U-Haul from my home in New Mexico to graduate school at the University of Wisconsin. Now, don't get me wrong, I love my home state, NM is great, but that day on the Park and Pleasure drive I was dumbstruck with the green, the trees the quiet the lake just here, in the middle of Madison. To this day I am grateful to those leaders who had the vision to **preserve this place**. It's a place with a lake that harbors no big motors. This is where owls perch and Lake Wingra beacons and is covered with a dark sky. This place where you can circle through the Arboretum in the wake of Aldo Leopold, and others who knew and took action on preserving it's quiet beauty.

I have lived in this neighborhood and it's surrounds for 40 years. First on Terry Place, where our kids could run out the door to reach Wingra and the basketball courts, and the Art Cart and lazy summer days. Then to West Lawn, where they walked to school, of course and grew up roaming stores of Monroe Street, ice skating and playing hockey at Vilas Park. We had fun at Edgefest and were grateful that it lasted only one week. Now I live on Virginia Terrace, where I can hear, (because of unusual acoustics) which band is playing at Jazz at the Park down at Wingra Park. I love and value this place.

This is neighborhood where we walk or bike or bus most places. **It is a place where 2,400 West High School students, most all of them from the neighborhood practice on a little field outside their high school building.** Their practice field has no lights, no big sound system, no seating. And it is just fine. And when West HS students play a game, they go to a field outside the central city. There, the noise and lights and activity are welcome and parking is plentiful.

But for some reason, **Edgewood High School's 456 students, most of whom do not reside close by** and each of whom must pay \$11,000 per year to attend the school have, in their school's leadership opinion the **need for a giant stadium with 80 foot lights** (lights closer to their neighbors than any other of the same magnitude at a high school anywhere in the state) and a **booming sound system** (which it has already been determined will broadcast at levels destructive for surrounding living beings - especially the children and parents in the neighborhood), and **1,200 seats** (for these 1,200 seats people must **park** and get in and out of the now mostly 2 lane street that Monroe Street is), and **concessions** (complete with **trash and drinking**) and for **unrelenting noise for as many nights as that institution wants to sell to whomever they chose to sell to**. This is not to mention the sound of leaf blowing clean up the day after. Frankly what I hear from Edgewood in this proposal is that the needs of the neighborhood be damned!

No central city high school in Madison has this kind of playing field just outside their door. This is because it is a very poor use of very densely packed neighborhood space. This kind of stadium belongs on the edge of the city, where there is parking and egress and a welcome for the players and their games. Stadiums like these belong in places where the neighborhood families and businesses chose to live close to the stadium. Not where the stadium moves in and chokes to impinge on it's neighbors.

Luckily, we have a Plan Commission whose mission is to help make decisions based on community needs. And we know, if this request were from any other imaginable neighbor that neighbor would never get permission to do this. Our city institutions are not based on whether a neighbor has money and influence and a need to prop up a faltering system with monies from outside sources. A neighbor is a neighbor is a neighbor. No neighbor

has the right to destroy the way of life of in their home place.

Edgewood has gotten everything (and more) that they have asked for. They didn't have sanction to play 70 day games on their field as they have done, in violation of the current plan. They have paid no penalty for this. Seeing this lack of action they are now asking to go forward with a completely unnecessary and neighborhood devastating plan.

"No" is the only possible answer to this outrageous request. This NO will help Edgewood teach the values that they have so long espoused - These are the (Sinsinawan Dominican **values**) of Truth, Compassion, Justice, **Community** and Partnership. These are indeed the values to which we all should adhere.

Sincerely,

Liz Lusk

452 Virginia Terrace

(608) 957-9291

**From:** [Amy Arenz](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 10:46:02 AM

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I support the Edgewood High School lights. In the upcoming meeting please vote in favor of Edgewood securing the lights. Edgewood has put in the time to research the lighting solution and has selected the lights that will have the least amount of impact on the community.

Thank you,  
Amy

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

From: Ethan Brodsky <[ethan.brodsky@gmail.com](mailto:ethan.brodsky@gmail.com)>

Sent: May 07, 2020 3:14 PM

To: Planning <[planning@cityofmadison.com](mailto:planning@cityofmadison.com)>; All Alders <[allalders@cityofmadison.com](mailto:allalders@cityofmadison.com)>; Mayor <[Mayor@cityofmadison.com](mailto:Mayor@cityofmadison.com)>; Evers, Tag <[district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com)>; Parks, Timothy <[TParks@cityofmadison.com](mailto:TParks@cityofmadison.com)>; Stouder, Heather <[HStouder@cityofmadison.com](mailto:HStouder@cityofmadison.com)>; [ajstatz2@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:ajstatz2@madison.k12.wi.us); [bacantrell@charter.net](mailto:bacantrell@charter.net); [erics@cows.org](mailto:erics@cows.org); [jshagenow@yahoo.com](mailto:jshagenow@yahoo.com); [klanespencer@uwalumni.com](mailto:klanespencer@uwalumni.com); [keetrasburn@gmail.com](mailto:keetrasburn@gmail.com); [ledell.zellers@gmail.com](mailto:ledell.zellers@gmail.com); Lemmer, Lindsay <[district3@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district3@cityofmadison.com)>; Rummel, Marsha <[district6@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district6@cityofmadison.com)>; Heck, Patrick <[district2@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district2@cityofmadison.com)>

Subject: Edgewood's Stadium Lights proposal will diminish value of neighboring properties

Supporters of Edgewood's stadium proposals have made various unsubstantiated claims about the economic benefits of a stadium, but say little about the financial costs, almost all of which will be borne by third parties.

In a very similar 2011 situation in Arlington County, Virginia, Bishop O'Connell High School applied for a permit to install new stadium lights at an non-lighted existing athletic field in a residential neighborhood. The geography of the site was similar to that of Edgewood, with single-family residential homes immediately across the street from the stadium site, about 150 feet from the playing field [1].

A neighborhood group conducted a survey of local real estate agents to find out the impact that professional realtors believed such stadium lighting would have on nearby property values. They asked about three sets of homes

- 34 homes "immediately adjacent" to the site (34 homes, on three streets that were 590 ft, 510 ft, 220 ft, and 120 feet from the playing surface),  
156 homes within one block of the site, and 406 homes within three blocks of the site. For each set of homes, they asked whether the agents believed the stadium lights proposal would increase, decrease, or have no impact on home values; the amount of the predicted impact; and for comments about the impact. They distributed 88 surveys and received 46 responses [2].

\*NONE\* of the agents expected that the stadium plan would result in higher home values, even for homes three blocks away.

80% of the agents believed that first-row homes would decline in value.

65% of the agents believed that homes within a one block would decline in value.

35% believed that homes within a three blocks would decline in value.

For the "front row" homes, the predicted value decline among agents who expected a decline averaged 11%. For the "one block" homes, the predicted value decline among agents who expected a decline was 9%. For the "three block" homes, the predicted value decline among agents who expected a decline was 12%. The third result is surprising until you consider that only 35% of agents expect a decline at that distance, so the predicted decline reflects the estimates of a subgroup that is more pessimistic than average.

If we adjust these "raw" estimates by averaging in the "no decline"



estimate from the agents who expected no impact (no agents expected an increase, so the math is simple), then the predicted decline would be  $11\% * 0.8 = 9\%$  in the front row,  $9\% * .65 = 6\%$  in the first block, and 4% in a three-block radius.

If we translate these estimates to the homes around the Edgewood site, we can estimate what the impact would be here.

There are 31 houses on Woodrow, 23 houses on Monroe, and approximately 15 houses on Edgewood Avenue which could reasonably be considered to be in the "front row". That is a total of 69 houses. The average assessed value of a home on Woodrow (excluding homes owned by Edgewood itself, which are tax-exempt) is ~\$430,000. The averaged assessed value of a home on that section of Monroe is ~\$379,000. We can safely assume that homes on Edgewood Avenue are comparable. If we go with an average value of \$400,000, that's \$27,600,000 in assessed value in the front row alone.

A 9% reduction in that value would be \$2,500,000 in destroyed home equity. At a mil rate of 2.2%, that's \$55,000/year in lost property tax revenue for the City of Madison. That's in the front row alone.

In a one-block radius, we also add 35 homes on Terry, 64 homes on West Lawn, and approximately 50 homes in the Vilas neighborhood, so that's another 150 homes. With a comparable average value (I suspect they are higher, considering the location and lot sizes), there's another \$60,000,000 in assessed value. If 6% of it is wiped out, that's \$3,600,000 in lost home equity, and a reduction of another \$79,000/year in property tax revenue.

I am not going to count the homes in a three-block radius, but they include Keyes, Fox, portions of Gregory, Fox, Edgewood Avenue, Prospect Street, and the Vilas neighborhood out to Harrison. We're easily talking about another  $65+50+20+100$  (based on the assumption that the number of homes per block is about the same as on adjacent blocks) or around 250 homes. With similar values and a 4% decrease, that's another ~\$4,000,000 in reduced home equity and another ~\$90,000 in lost tax revenue.

All in all, this survey predicts that ten million dollars in home equity will be wiped out, with most households having losses measured in the tens of thousands of dollars, and on the order of \$200,000/year in property tax losses.

The decisions you are making are essential - it is the inescapable nature of a decision of this sort that the financial consequences to neighbors will be enormous, and the impact on city tax revenue will measure in the millions of dollars over the next decade alone, all for a project that benefits a small number of people (Edgewood's published attendance is under 500) and does not benefit the city financially in any way.

I am certain that stadium supporters will dispute these estimates, and of course anyone should be skeptical of any survey conducted by any sort of group involved on either side of a dispute like this, but there are very few studies of this sort to go on, because new stadium developments in existing neighborhoods are, with good reason, rare. I feel it important to point out that the person who conducted the study I describe here is Bill Adair, the founder and editor of PolitiFact and a professor of journalism and public policy, who has a well-founded reputation for honesty and fairness.

It would be extremely reckless of the city to approve this development and risk such economic harm, both to neighbors and the city itself, without studying the economic impact, especially in the current climate when so many are so deeply concerned about their economic security.

MGO 28.183(6)(a) states:

"No application for a conditional use shall be granted by the Plan Commission unless it finds that all of the following conditions are met:

3. The uses, values and enjoyment of other property in the neighborhood for purposes already established will not be substantially impaired or diminished in any foreseeable manner."

This development would enormously impair and diminish the value of other properties in the neighborhood for purposes already established (i.e. people living in their homes), and should be denied on those grounds alone.

In the end, the Arlington County Board voted to reject the stadium lights proposal, stating that the lights would be an "unsettling disruption" to the neighborhood and that there are places "where it would not be appropriate to have lights".

The Catholic Diocese of Arlington sued the County Board anyway, and, well, the last media report about the case was in 2011, when the county spokesperson reported that they hadn't even been served two months after the diocese announced they were filing the lawsuit, so presumably it didn't go anywhere (Arlington County Circuit Court records are not accessible online).

I hope the city makes the right choice here,

Ethan Brodsky

[1] [https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A\\_www.arlnow.com\\_2011\\_03\\_16\\_county-2Dboard-2Drejects-2Dlights-2Dfor-2Dbishop-2Doconnell-2Dhigh-2Dschoo&d=DwlBAg&c=byefhD2ZumMFFQYPZBagUCDuBiM9Q9twmxaBM0hCgII&r=yFHU65OLh8kG5UhqB2U0e4Tteu4Mk45Aaep7N4hi-B4&m=7s5An-bzNP6Aq88Sf6Ft4Fj0SHWSCplMEmQ\\_E4V1kCk&s=7lvI0OUvd3NhLaoLekvoVcb9URyRsMoEyLyhils4kAM&e=](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A_www.arlnow.com_2011_03_16_county-2Dboard-2Drejects-2Dlights-2Dfor-2Dbishop-2Doconnell-2Dhigh-2Dschoo&d=DwlBAg&c=byefhD2ZumMFFQYPZBagUCDuBiM9Q9twmxaBM0hCgII&r=yFHU65OLh8kG5UhqB2U0e4Tteu4Mk45Aaep7N4hi-B4&m=7s5An-bzNP6Aq88Sf6Ft4Fj0SHWSCplMEmQ_E4V1kCk&s=7lvI0OUvd3NhLaoLekvoVcb9URyRsMoEyLyhils4kAM&e=)

[2] [https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A\\_noadverseimpact.blogspot.com\\_2010\\_12\\_realtors-2Dexpect-2Ddecline-2Din-2Dhome-2Dvalues.html&d=DwlBAg&c=byefhD2ZumMFFQYPZBagUCDuBiM9Q9twmxaBM0hCgII&r=yFHU65OLh8kG5UhqB2U0e4Tteu4Mk45Aaep7N4hi-B4&m=7s5An-bzNP6Aq88Sf6Ft4Fj0SHWSCplMEmQ\\_E4V1kCk&s=3t4vfjlzpt9ltHqR1znQsed719xs4RRC9zjFpsMhc&e=](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A_noadverseimpact.blogspot.com_2010_12_realtors-2Dexpect-2Ddecline-2Din-2Dhome-2Dvalues.html&d=DwlBAg&c=byefhD2ZumMFFQYPZBagUCDuBiM9Q9twmxaBM0hCgII&r=yFHU65OLh8kG5UhqB2U0e4Tteu4Mk45Aaep7N4hi-B4&m=7s5An-bzNP6Aq88Sf6Ft4Fj0SHWSCplMEmQ_E4V1kCk&s=3t4vfjlzpt9ltHqR1znQsed719xs4RRC9zjFpsMhc&e=)

**From:** [Julia Dragoo](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** EHS Lighting  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 2:17:18 PM

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Hello,

I'm am writing today to ask for your support on the vote on Monday evening, May 11th at the Madison Plan Commission regarding the vote on the request for a lighting permit for Edgewood High School to add lights to its Athletic field. Please support Edgewood High School students!

Thank you!

Julia Dragoo

**From:** [Cathy Fagen](#)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood Athletic field please support lights  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 2:08:40 PM

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Please give fair and equal treatment to Edgewood High School and support lights for the high school athletic field.

Cathy Fagen

Orosz-Fagen Properties  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood's Proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 2:52:19 PM

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**From:** Patricia Friday <patricia.friday72@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 2:07 PM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Edgewood's Proposal

Dear Heather Stouder,

My name is Patricia Friday. I've been a resident of 1050 Woodrow Street since 1978. My husband and I live less than 300 feet from Edgewood High School's football field. I am writing to vehemently OPPOSE the Conditional Use Permit Application by Edgewood (file # 60001). As you know, Edgewood and the neighborhood have been in conflict about their proposal to add lights to their field to accommodate night games. If this goal is accomplished, they will then propose to add an amplified sound system, a permanent 1200 seat stadium complete with locker rooms and bathrooms, and a concession stand.

Edgewood has taken an all or nothing approach. In addition to 80' lights, their application includes NO restrictions on the number of events they will host, nor does it mention a sound barrier to mitigate excess sound in the neighborhood. Their proposal would increase noise and light pollution far beyond reasonable levels, as well as adding to the preexisting traffic and parking issues. THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE IN A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD!! The sound levels from games of up to - or exceeding - 70dB will keep young children awake at night, and families in their homes when they should be enjoying the outdoors. (The World Health Organization's guidelines for nighttime noise in a sustainable urban setting, is 40dB). The sky glow from 80' lights would impact everyone in the immediate neighborhood as well as Monroe Street drivers. Would the Plan Commission or the city allow me to erect 80' lights on my property and use them indiscriminately?? I don't think so! Why should Edgewood be granted that privilege?

The vast majority of Edgewood families do not live in the Dudgeon - Monroe or Vilas neighborhoods. The students commute from all over the area as evidenced by the vast parking lot. Therefore, Edgewood families will not suffer the consequences of Edgewood's proposal. I wonder how they would feel if 80' tall lights were erected close to their homes.

The Plan Commission is required to consider if the public benefits accruing to the developer outweigh the negative impacts on the use and enjoyment of neighboring homeowner's property. With this proposal, the answer is a definite NO! The livability of the neighborhood, the property values, and the health and welfare of the people living near Edgewood would be negatively affected.

Edgewood uses the threat of a religious discrimination lawsuit as leverage to obtain their goals. They state that they want to use their land according to their own needs like all city high schools with the same zoning. There is no religious discrimination here. If Edgewood were a secular private high school, the controversy would be the same. Or, consider what would happen if West high school sought to transform their practice field into a full fledged stadium. Policy decisions should not be made under the threat of a lawsuit!

In addition to the above, I find it interesting that Edgewood has chosen to proceed with their

request for a Conditional Use Permit at this particular time. When the majority of the population is under safer at home orders, and Plan Commissions meetings are virtual, neighborhood residents are unable to communicate easily with one another, and those who are technologically challenged, will be unable to participate in the virtual Plan Commission meeting. For these reasons -

**I URGE YOU TO VOTE NO FOR EDGEWOOD'S CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT!**

Thank you for your consideration,  
Patricia Friday  
1050 Woodrow Street

**From:** [Mike Kafka](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy: Planning](#)  
**Subject:** Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 2:56:52 PM

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Dear Alders and Plan Commission Members,

My name is Michael Kafka. I live at 2229 Keyes Avenue, two blocks from Edgewood High School, in the same block as the school. I have lived here for over 31 years.

I have no connection to Edgewood but I strongly support Edgewood's application for lights. There are many of us in the neighborhood who, like myself, also support Edgewood.

By approving lights for Edgewood I feel the community would benefit, the businesses in the area would benefit but most importantly the Edgewood students would benefit from being able to play night games on their own home field.

Please approve the application for lights for Edgewood's field.

Thank you,

Michael Kafka

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**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood High School's Conditional Use Permit  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 3:49:09 PM

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**From:** M B King <mbk\_kef@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 3:25 PM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>; Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Cc:** Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Edgewood High School's Conditional Use Permit

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

I am writing about Edgewood High School's application for a Conditional Use Permit to install stadium lights. I urge you to REJECT this application.

Private (property) rights do not "trump" community input or impact, in my view. The current Covid situation is making this even more apparent and important. This athletic field construction will be detrimental to the surrounding neighborhoods and to the environment. Edgewood's private benefit should not out-weigh a public good.

As Edgewood states, "This is done to fulfill our mission, meet the safety and athletic needs of our students and conference, and attract more students to Edgewood." There are no public or community benefits. Are stadium lights necessary to accomplish these goals? Certainly there are other mechanisms for the school to pursue to meet these needs.

If only there were some good faith efforts to reach a workable compromise! Edgewood says, "We will continue to meet with our neighbors to understand and address reasonable concerns through the process." But they don't. Many of us in the neighborhood actually don't begrudge Edgewood its own athletic events on the site, **within certain parameters**. But their current request for such an impactful expansion of use should be rejected, given that there are no specific, limiting, reasonable parameters that would minimize the impacts on the surrounding area, AND NO effort to establish them.

Thank you for your consideration and service,

M. Bruce King  
873 Terry Place  
Madison, WI 53711



**From:** Bernie and Joan A  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood Lighting application  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 8:09:19 PM

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Hello-

I'm writing to you to urge your support for the Edgewood High School lighting application at the Goodman Athletic Complex. Please support this expansion so that the students and entire Edgewood Community can experience the same support and sense of community that our public school neighbors do. Recently other city complexes have received similar upgrades including Breese Stevens Stadium and Memorial High school. In fact, what Edgewood is asking is the same LED lights and technology recently approved for Burr Jones Park on the East Side (2019), Madison Memorial High School (2018), and the UW-Madison tennis facilities (2018). Why should Edgewood be treated any differently? EHS students should be given the same opportunity on their home field to learn team work, discipline, leadership, and comradery that their friends at the other Madison schools do. Please show your support for ALL Madison youth by supporting the lighting application.

Thank you,  
Joan Albright 19 Sturbridge Circle, Madison WI 53717  
608-239-2201

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for Edgewood lighting  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 12:49:32 PM

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**From:** Jason Bittner <jjbittner@uwalumni.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 10:57 AM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Support for Edgewood lighting

I strongly support the Edgewood application to allow lights at their athletic field to host evening athletic competitions. I do support limiting the number of night events to 30 per calendar year.

I do not believe this will alter the community or the quality of life in our neighborhood.  
Thank you.

Jason Bittner  
2220 Keyes Avenue

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 8:03:05 AM

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**From:** Tanya Cunningham <itmakesyousmile@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 7:10 PM

**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>

**Subject:**

I am disappointed and angry that this meeting is even going ahead at this time! This is NOT such an urgent matter that it has to come before the City in a 'virtual' meeting. This is an incredibly significant issue that could have devastating consequences for many Madison residents, and a follow-on repercussions for a long time to come.

It is as inexcusable to hold this meeting, in this way, at this time, as it was for the State to hold an election in the middle of a pandemic! Shame on all who facilitated moving this meeting forward, thus denying many citizens their right of participation in government!

I oppose granting Edgewood High School a permit for lights on their athletic field. They have demonstrated their bad faith over and over again. This is just the first step in a scheme that has been opposed by the surrounding neighborhoods for decades. It is completely unreasonable to allow this drastic change and hugely negative impact on that area of the City, as well as setting a horrible precedent of caving in to demands of large, monied interests in favor of individual homeowners and property owners, whose voices are much less powerful.

In the past year, EHS has clearly demonstrated that they are willing to break the law, and will hold the maximum number of events possible on the athletic field. If they are permitted to pursue this stadium scheme, it will be used as a revenue source, renting the facility to other entities, with events every night of the week, weather permitting.

It is just inconceivable to me that, in this time of hardship and stress, you would chose to add to the stress of people who are simply standing up for their rights to preserve and defend their property rights and their rights to promote and defend their own and their families' quality of life.

Tanya Cunningham  
5636 Lake Mendota Drive  
Madison, WI 53705

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: #60001  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 8:02:04 AM

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

From: Andrew Cusick <afcusick@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 10:46 PM  
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: #60001

Stadiums like Edgewood is proposing belong next to a highway, not 100 feet from residential housing. Do not let this tax exempt property owner bully you into putting a stadium where one does not belong.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please, NO on Edgewood Lights  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 8:03:26 AM

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**From:** Katie Drucker <mama2gg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 3:57 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Please, NO on Edgewood Lights

Dear Commissioners, Alders and Ms. Mayor,

**PLEASE vote no, or support to turn down Edgewood High School's conditional use application for lights in their field.**

We have lived on Pickford Street in the Dudgeon/Monroe neighborhood for 20 years. We love that it has been quiet and safe, where neighbors are friendly, parking is easy, and traffic is minimal. Watching this great little neighborhood turn into a place where there are too many cars, too much density, and rising crime makes life here less desirable, stressful and sad.

We totally understand the desire to have home games on campus, our kids went to West High School and had to travel for home games. It is not ideal, but we chose this neighborhood and school knowing this was the case. We could not imagine pushing to build an obnoxious stadium on the West campus permanently disrupting the lives of all who live in that area. Can you imagine the fight the neighbors would put up there?

**PLEASE do everything you can to PREVENT Edgewood from permanently disrupting our lives by adding Light & Amplified Sound to their practice field.** Save us from the following invasive conditions:

**1. Noise.** We can sometimes hear the games and band from Camp Randall which can be charming because there are so few and the sound is faint enough. We can easily hear the music at jazz in the park. We cannot image having to listen to so many events at the much louder and closer Edgewood campus, whistles blowing, cheering, yelling. It would ruin our quality of life during the short lived warmer months. Things we love about living here; sitting on the front porch and chatting with neighbors, having windows open, eating dinner on the back patio all will become tedious, frustrating and miserable. The noise will be inescapable.

**2. Traffic and crime.** Traffic is another one of those things that has adversely changed this neighborhood in recent years. We already endure so much being the thoroughfare for Epic, UW Campus, Camp Randall, Downtown, Edgewood, etc. Having 40+ events a year where most of the spectators and players will be commuting in and out will just add to the already miserable traffic issues we have to deal with here. The increase of teenagers from outside of Madison driving through, parking, running around before and after events won't be a positive either. We've all been there, we all know how teens tend to behave at sporting events. I also worry about an increase of vandalism and crime with an increase of kids from out of the area.

We have seen some rotten behavior with the yard signs that has been very disappointing.

3. **Lights.** Even though the lights probably wouldn't affect us as much where we are, I would be devastated for my neighbors who would be. I would hate to be forced to put up with the lights for so many nights and evenings. It would be absolutely unethical and disgraceful for Edgewood to subject their neighbors to such a horrible quality of life in the proposed light zone.

We also worry about the quality of our neighborhood going down, including property values, if Edgewood is successful. There will be very few people who will want to live close to a stadium that produces so much noise and light, especially for a school that supports very few people who actually live in the neighborhood. Please do not support the people who do not even live in this neighborhood.

It seems so incredibly unfair and unneighborly that Edgewood is trying to pass this through after their promise not to. When we moved here 20 years ago we asked about the possible development of this field and the general understanding was that it would never happen, that Edgewood had an agreement with the neighborhood to be a good neighbor. **I am begging you to do whatever you can to prevent this from happening. It is incredibly distressing to think Edgewood might change this neighborhood in such a terrible way.**

Thanks so much for your consideration. Thank you all for your service to our city and amazing neighborhoods in Madison.

Sean and Katie Drucker  
648 Pickford Street  
Madison, WI 53711  
608-320-1119

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Edgewood's Conditional Use Permit  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 10:24:23 AM

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**From:** Evers, Tag  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 10:24 AM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Opposition to Edgewood's Conditional Use Permit

Please add to the file.

Thanks.

---

Tag Evers

**DISTRICT 13 ALDER**  
CITY OF MADISON  
(608) 424-2580  
[district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com)

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**From:** Susanna Rasmussen Fischer <[serasmussen@gmail.com](mailto:serasmussen@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 8:57 AM  
**To:** All Alders  
**Subject:** Opposition to Edgewood's Conditional Use Permit

Hello,

I am writing today to express my concern over Edgewood's application for a Conditional Use Permit to install stadium lights. I am a neighborhood resident who has lived in the Dudgeon Monroe neighborhood for more than 20 years. I am also a government employee who works at home, the mother of two small children, and a neighborhood volunteer. I am concerned about the extent to which lights will lead to nighttime use and the effect that will have on my small children who go to sleep by 7pm across Monroe st from Edgewood. I am concerned about the noise associated with these night games, the parking, and the potential prevalence of use during evening/ early morning hours. I am also concerned about any the potential to rent the facility out to third parties, which would dramatically change the feel of our community, which is full of young families.

I am also concerned about Edgewood's approach to stadium development. I am disheartened by their reluctance to partner with the neighborhood association and some of the disrespectful / threatening mailings some of my neighbors have received over the past year. I understand this is a process and compromises need to be made, I am just very concerned about the precedent that is set (whether inadvertent or not) by rewarding such aggressive behavior.

I am greatly saddened to have to write this email at this time - I know you are all working tirelessly on the current challenges associated with COVID-19. I appreciate the opportunity to express my views and concerns and to be included in this process. Thank you for all you do to serve this community!

Best regards,

Susanna Fischer  
702 Leonard St



**From:** [mavangemert@aol.com](mailto:mavangemert@aol.com)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Edgewood High School  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 10:56:01 PM

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Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to listen to our concerns regarding Edgewood High School (EHS).

We ask that you allow lights, a sound system and all necessary accommodations so the students of Edgewood High School can play sports on their home field.

We live in an adjacent neighborhood and are looking forward to walking up the street to watch kids play sports on their own turf and in front of their own fans. This will build a more cohesive sense of community for both the kids and the neighborhoods.

I am a graduate of EHS and played several sports. To this day, the memories are both endearing and exciting. Let's build this opportunity for the students of Edgewood High School.

What can be better than kids playing sports!

Respectfully,

Jim and Mary Alice Van Gemert

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Edgewood lights  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 9:52:08 AM

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**From:** Libby Gerds <libbygerds@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 08, 2020 9:21 AM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Edgewood lights

Good morning,

Thanks for your continued representation of our neighborhood and city. I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed lighting for night events at Edgewood High School. As a close neighbor (within a few hundred feet), we do our best to be welcoming and accommodating of Edgewood and its students and faculty. We appreciate their consideration in return. It's a quiet, residential neighborhood with both small kids and older residents, all of whom would be impacted negatively by increased lights, sound and traffic. Please do not allow Edgewood to hold unlimited evening events with lights.

Thanks for your consideration.

Libby Gerds  
840 Woodrow Street  
651-303-3656

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposed to Edgewood Conditional Use Permit  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 8:03:13 AM

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**From:** David Seth Gevers <dsgevers@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 5:12 PM  
**To:** Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Opposed to Edgewood Conditional Use Permit

To Whom It May Concern:

As a Vilas Neighborhood resident, I am writing to ask that you oppose the Edgewood's conditional use application for lights and their ongoing Edgewood Stadium Proposal. The school clearly intends to use the stadium for night games with loud music and sound with not regard for the surrounding families or the natural environment immediately adjacent. The number of night events could be in the hundreds as opposed to the handful of Badger games each year. It is clear the school intends to force this intrusion on the neighbors' peaceful enjoyment of their properties and is unacceptable. In my view, if they have been able to operate as an institution of learning for over a hundred years without lights than they will be just fine continuing as such without placing a burden on the young families living in close proximity by having bright lights and amplified bass and music blasting into our homes.

Sincerely,  
David Gevers

**From:** [Imhoff Mickey](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 10:59:52 PM

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I urge you to support Edgewood High School's application for lights on their campus. This is an equity issue and has been dragged out much too long. Thank you.

Mikell L Imhoff  
2 Quail Ridge Dr  
Madison, WI 53717

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vote No on 60001, EHS stadium lights  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 4:52:43 PM

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**From:** Ledell Zellers <ledell.zellers@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 4:45 PM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Cc:** 'M B King' <mbk\_kef@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Vote No on 60001, EHS stadium lights

Hi Heather,

Could you please make MB King's email part of the official record and available to all Plan Commissioners?

Thank you.  
Ledell

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**From:** M B King [[mailto:mbk\\_kef@yahoo.com](mailto:mbk_kef@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 3:44 PM  
**To:** [ledell.zellers@gmail.com](mailto:ledell.zellers@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Vote No on 60001, EHS stadium lights

Dear Ledell,

I am writing about Edgewood High School's application for a Conditional Use Permit to install stadium lights. I urge you to REJECT this application.

Private (property) rights do not "trump" community input or impact, in my view. The current Covid situation is making this even more apparent and important. This athletic field construction will be detrimental to the surrounding neighborhoods and to the environment. Edgewood's private benefit should not out-weigh a public good.

As Edgewood states, "This is done to fulfill our mission, meet the safety and athletic needs of our students and conference, and attract more students to Edgewood." There are no public or community benefits. Are stadium lights necessary to accomplish these goals? Certainly there are other mechanisms for the school to pursue to meet these needs.

If only there were some good faith efforts to reach a workable compromise! Edgewood says, "We will continue to meet with our neighbors to understand and address reasonable concerns through the process." But they don't. Many of us in the neighborhood actually don't begrudge Edgewood its own athletic events on the site, within certain parameters. But their current request for such an impactful expansion of use should be rejected, given that there are no specific, limiting, reasonable parameters that would minimize the impacts on the surrounding area, AND NO effort to establish them.

Thank you for your consideration and service,

M. Bruce King  
873 Terry Place  
Madison, WI 53711

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: opposition to Edgewood's conditional use application  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 8:05:20 AM

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**From:** Sally Lehner <sa\_lehner@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 1:58 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** opposition to Edgewood's conditional use application

To Whom It May Concern:

As a Vilas Neighborhood resident, I am writing to ask that you oppose the Edgewood's conditional use application for lights and their ongoing Edgewood Stadium Proposal. I am also in full agreement with Ald. Evers' position, attached below, as outlined in his submission to Planning Commission.

I believe the benefit from having the stadium is outweighed by the health impacts on the surrounding neighborhood families due to the light and noise pollution from the proposed stadium and this conditional use application.

Further, it is my understanding that if the noise and light levels exceed projections, there is little or no recourse. This is especially concerning because Edgewood has already violated and showed blatant disregard for currently applicable zoning laws.

Sincerely,  
Sally Lehner

## Alder Evers' Blog

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# Now Is Not The Time

*May 1, 2020 3:53 PM*

# **NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO RESOLVE A 25-YEAR OLD CONTROVERSY**

Edgewood High School and its immediate neighbors have been in a protracted conflict over the issue of night games and the impact these games would have on nearby residents. This controversy has been going on since the mid-1990's.

It's not reasonable to attempt to resolve this controversy in the middle of a global pandemic.

I am requesting Plan Commission turn down Edgewood's conditional use application for several reasons.

First, we are currently under a Safer At Home order, an order which has been extended to May 26. This restricts in-person communication among Edgewood's immediate neighbors, several of whom are elderly and not technologically proficient. This is an equity consideration, in that there is a barrier to resident participation.

But it goes beyond technology. Covid-19 has impacted the community. Many of us know someone who has been infected. Others have lost jobs or experienced salary reductions. Stress levels are at an all-time high.

I realize this is no different than elsewhere in the city. These factors alone do not merit delay. Plan Commission is an essential committee, and we are moving forward with essential business, including myriad development projects. Madison still has a housing crisis, and it's important to accommodate project timelines, notwithstanding the importance of resident input.

However, there is no sense of urgency in this application. Simply put, there remains no indication night games will be held this summer, nor is it clear that sports gatherings will be held this fall.

I met with President Mike Elliot and Board President Steve Krantz on March 9 to discuss their application. At that time, I urged Edgewood to move slow with their application, to make a good faith effort to rebuild trust with the neighborhood.

The application showed up two days later, on March 11. The application includes no restriction on the number of events, nor does it include the wall or sound barrier Edgewood previously proffered in recognition of crowd noise impacts. In



short, I can find little evidence my suggestion to move slowly was taken seriously.

At that March 9 meeting, I made it clear to Mr. Elliot and Mr. Krantz that they need to present their application to the Edgewood Neighborhood Liaison Committee. For reasons unclear to me, that meeting has not been held. Instead, it appears Edgewood's leadership prefer to meet with the two neighborhood association presidents, both of whom have expressed a preference for the Liaison Committee as the proper venue to review the application.

On March 24, as the reality of our current situation was made evident, I emailed President Elliot asking that he delay their application due to the many ways the pandemic has impacted the neighborhood. I received no response. I followed up with another email on April 29. President Elliot did get back to me on April 30, declining my request to refer and indicating his intention to proceed.

Let it be noted that throughout 2019, the City of Madison engaged in considerable forbearance on Edgewood's behalf. Though Edgewood's use of the so-designated practice field for athletic contests was found to be in violation of their Master Plan, the violations were never enforced, allowing Edgewood to hold over 70 games on their field in a single calendar year. This contrary use was not negotiated with the neighborhood, was not permitted by law, but was nonetheless allowed.

On behalf of Edgewood's neighbors, I am asking for similar forbearance, one that recognizes there is no immediate need to resolve a 25-year old controversy in the middle of a global pandemic.

There is another reason, separate from the pandemic, that stands against a decision in favor of this application. When I met with Mr. Elliot and Mr. Krantz on March 9, they made it clear that this application is but the first in a series of conditional use requests to achieve the complete build out of their stadium proposal. While their current application is for lights only, lights are clearly a means to an end. This application is of a piece with Edgewood's initial proposal to amend their Master Plan, i.e., to build a stadium on their athletic field with lights, amplified sound, expanded seating, concession stands, locker rooms, expanded schedules, etc.

Rather than deciding this matter piecemeal, Plan Commission should be evaluating the applicant's long-term goals, stated openly and transparently, plans that must be submitted to the Liaison Committee for prior review and

feedback.

In short, the timing is wrong, the process has been inadequate, and the application is incomplete.

I asked Edgewood in good faith to delay their application, a request made on behalf of Edgewood's immediate neighbors. Edgewood refused this request. I am very disappointed by their decision.

For this and all the reasons enumerated, I hereby request Edgewood's conditional use application be placed on file without prejudice.

Stay safe and be well.

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: May 11 Agenda Edgewood High School CUP  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 7:02:03 AM

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

From: Tracy Lewis <tracylewis55@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2020 10:37 PM  
To: Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: May 11 Agenda Edgewood High School CUP

I am writing as a 34 year resident of the Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood residing at 706 Leonard Street which is just 4 houses from Monroe Street and steps away from Edgewood's athletic field. I would like to voice my strong opposition to Edgewood/s request to install lights on their field. EHS has sought to build a stadium for over years despite resounding opposition from the neighborhood and more importantly 80% of its nearest neighbors living within just 200 feet of their playing field.

If the City gives them the green light, the erection of towering lights will forever transform the surrounding neighborhood in a way that will grossly impact the lives of those who reside not just nearby but also residents throughout the City who benefit from the use of quiet Lake Wingra. It should be self evident that with lights comes noise that will extend into the night and by Edgewood's own sound expert's admission, can not be mitigated.

One does not have to project into the future to imagine what it will be like. The monumental increase in use of their field from a mere 4 games in 2014 to 77 games in 2019 turned my otherwise calm living environment into an unpredictable environment where noise levels from crowds, players, starter pistols, whistles and a scoreboard with a loud siren forced me inside with closed windows on otherwise warm days. During one week in particular the neighbors documented activity and games occurring daily followed by a seven hour LaCrosse tournament on Sunday. How could any reasonable person not conclude that 7 days of substantial unwanted noise in a week would not be an intrusion into our lives.

The City has a mandate to balance the needs of institutions with the health and well being of its citizens. A conditional use application necessitates that a weighted consideration be given to those most impacted. Currently without a master plan EHS has unlimited ability to use their field on a daily basis. The impact to our lives in our homes is already excessive. With the addition of lighting, and subsequent nighttime activity, we are being asked to shoulder the whole burden of these changes. The future of our lives in our homes rests with the decision the City will make about the CUP in question. I urge you to listen to the voices of the neighborhood and our Alder. Vote to oppose Edgewood's latest request.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Lewis  
706 Leonard Street

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposed to Edgewood's new stadium and any interim step to the goal  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 8:02:34 AM

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**From:** Betty MacEwen <betty.macewen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 8:16 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Opposed to Edgewood's new stadium and any interim step to the goal

I would like to express my opposition to the expansion of the use of the playing field at Edgewood beyond what was in their previous Master Plan. I do not support adding lights, sound, seating, additional game or anything of that nature. This will significantly reduce the quality of life of the surrounding community.

I also ask that their unfettered and unlawful use of the playing field in having over 70 games in one calendar year be addressed with enforcement, if possible. Edgewood is not operating in good faith with regard to the neighborhood and community and should be held to account.

I agree with the position of alder Tag Evers. He lays out a case of which I agree on every point.

Thank you for your time in reading this email and also for your service to our community.

Betty MacEwen  
1805 Van Hise Ave

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood Stadium Project  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 10:25:13 AM

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**From:** Neil McCallum <nmccallum2225@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 08, 2020 10:18 AM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Cc:** ethan.brodsky@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Edgewood Stadium Project

City of Madison Leaders,

In August of last year, we sent to you the email shown below. Obviously, a lot of the circumstances regarding this issue have changed since that date. What has not changed is our opposition to the fact that Edgewood High School is moving forward to add games, lights and other changes to their Stadium in OUR neighborhood. As stated in our August email, with the amount of taxes that we pay to the city, our voices should be heard and respected. By your actions, we hope that you will demonstrate respect for our neighborhood and City as a whole.

Neil D. and Shirley L McCallum  
2225 Keyes Ave, Madison, WI 53711  
608 257 1601

August 2019 Email

Please do not allow Edgewood High School to vacate their Master Plan agreement with the City of Madison. It is clear that the development proposed by Edgewood High School will adversely impact the tax paying neighbors that abut and surround the campus! Given the high taxes that we pay, our voice should be heard and respected by the City Officials

Given my career as an Architect, I have long been skeptical of the onerous city requirements and resulting monies being spent regarding the city approval process.

That being said, it is interesting that after spending countless hours during 4 years of development of a Master Plan, Edgewood High School is requesting that the Master Plan be vacated. This request is so that they can develop a Stadium with lights and sound systems. This development will greatly impact the quality of life for the surrounding neighborhood. It is obvious that Edgewood High School, has no respect for their neighbors!

Neil D & Shirley L McCallum  
2225 Keyes Ave  
Madison, WI 53711

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to stadium lights at Edgewood  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 4:32:14 PM

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**From:** Thomas Nash <tom.nash@asu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 4:25 PM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Cc:** Parks, Timothy <TParks@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Opposition to stadium lights at Edgewood

6 May, 2020

Heather Stouder  
City of Madison Planning Commission

Re: Edgewood's stadium lighting proposal

To whom it concerns:

Edgewood proposes that the City of Madison through its Planning Commission and subsequently its Common Counsel, acquiesce to its proposal to introduce significant light and noise pollution not only to its campus but also to the surrounding neighborhood. As a member of that neighborhood whose lives would be significantly impacted, we are writing to strongly oppose the erection of stadium lights and the use of loud speakers that have already significantly exceeded the City of Madison's noise ordinances.

To begin it is important that the planning commission realize that Edgewood's request is not just for 5 home football games, but may expand to over 100 events a year as Edgewood expands to other sports and outdoor activities and potentially rents the stadium space to other organizations. One night in three is not a small impact!!

The parts of West Lawn Ave.. potentially most impacted by night-time stadium activities are the 2200 and 2300 blocks as all the homes lie within at least the second noise contour from the stadium. Nine months ago we had a joint block party with well over 60 kids between the ages of 2 and 10 running around. That cohort normally has early bedtimes. Can you picture trying to get members of this cohort to sleep when there is some major stadium activity in progress? In addition, many of the adults on our blocks are in bed by 9 p.m., long before a night game would be finished.

Two of us know a young lady (mid school age) who aspires to be the next Yo Yo Ma. She has played cello for the past 6 years and lives on Monroe immediately across from the stadium. Surely you realize that practicing a Bach piece is not compatible with stadium activities. Furthermore, her right to sleep would be violated by stadium lights streaming into her bedroom.

Added night time traffic is also a concern as the neighborhood is not built for it. Monroe St. is already a major corridor for evening activities in down town Madison. As an example, picture the traffic jams that would occur on a night when UW had a major basketball game and Edgewood had a stadium event. Spill over parking on our narrow side streets is also a potential problem. Were

Edgewood stadium events held in the afternoon, then Edgewood students could simply remain after classes and thereby reduce their contribution to traffic.

Just as UW reduces night time congestion by having almost all of its football games during the day, why can't Edgewood compromise with the Neighborhood and City by restricting its stadium activities to day time hours?

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H. Nash III and Corinna Gries  
2370 West Lawn Ave., Madison, WI 53711

P.S. Given our highly contagious coronavirus situation, proceeding with this stadium project is highly inappropriate. The stadium could easily become a focal point for the spread of the virus in Madison.

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Vote No on Edgewood Stadium lights  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 10:06:59 AM

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**From:** Ledell Gmail <ledell.zellers@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 9:56 AM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Cc:** Nicol, John L. <JOHN.L.NICOL@leidos.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Please Vote No on Edgewood Stadium lights

Hi Heather,

Could you please add this communication to the official record so other Plan Commissioner members will see it?

Thanks.  
Ledell

Ledell Zellers  
510 N Carroll Street, Madison, WI, 53703  
608 231 1526

On May 8, 2020, at 8:29 AM, Nicol, John L. <[JOHN.L.NICOL@leidos.com](mailto:JOHN.L.NICOL@leidos.com)> wrote:

Dear Alder Zellers,

I am desperately pleading with you to vote against adding Stadium lights to the Edgewood field for the following logical reasons that are supported by the Madison City code.

First the city staff did not really do an analysis of the code impacts and violations created by the adding lights to allow late night noise to penetrate surrounding residences. As an engineer with over 30 years of experience, their "Analysis" section is not really analysis but simply their personal belief based on a lack of true analysis. They did not even bring up the sound studies that have been done on the impact to the community which is a key consideration of the code compliance and the need to ensure the following needed code Standard be met:

3. The uses, values and enjoyment of other property in the neighborhood for purposes already established will not be substantially impaired or diminished in any foreseeable manner.



Sound studies have shown that the residences near the stadium WILL be **substantially impaired** by the broadcasting of the sporting events until 11PM. Imagine trying to eat dinner and have a conversation (let alone trying to get your young child to bed) with the constant blaring of some sports announcer making sure you know that some team just scored a goal, touchdown, or gained 4 yards on the play. Even as a life-long sports person, I would find this torturous 15+ times each year! The city code **24.08 - NOISE CONTROL REGULATION** pertains directly to the violation that approving these lights and subsequent use of the sound system into the night. It clearly indicates that “the policy of the City to prevent...excessive noise which may jeopardize the public health, safety, or welfare or which would cause harm to the property values...” Besides impacting the health and welfare of the neighbors, it is very clear that this type of stadium sound system noise well into the night will significantly **harm property values** (and taxes collected) for the homes near the Stadium. That includes the one that my wife and I own at 2354 West Lawn.

There is no debate that adding lights to the Edgewood Stadium WILL change the fabric and nature of the surrounding quiet neighborhood. Because we care about the neighborhood and our neighbors, we have great empathy for the 100+ families that live close to Edgewood. It does not take that much empathy to understand the great stress that the large noise late into the night from the Stadium will cause on these families. Many of the surrounding residences are smaller homes perfect for families with smaller children. These children go to bed well before 10 or 11PM.

**Sports DOES NOT trump families and their neighborhood.** Edgewood talks about how they are trying to use sports to teach the whole person. I have done many sports my whole life. The key tenant of good sportsmanship is to not injure someone else, just to win the game. This is exactly what Edgewood is trying to do. Win their game while hurting the families that live nearby.

Thanks for your consideration of my perspective. Please act to maintain the Madison code and sustain strong, quiet neighborhoods in Madison. It is what makes our city great. So please vote to reject Edgewood’s selfish move to put up stadium lights and undermine the neighborhood they occupy.

And Thank You for your service to our community!

Sincerely,

John and Susan Nicol  
1901 Commonwealth  
2354 West Lawn

**From:** Ethington, Ruth on behalf of Planning  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vote No on Plan Commission item #16  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 8:01:55 AM

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**From:** Bill Rattunde <bill.rattunde@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 11:28 PM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>; Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Vote No on Plan Commission item #16

Madison Plan Commissioners, Madison &  
Mayor Rhodes-Conway

Please oppose and vote No on Plan Commission item #16, the Edgewood application for Stadium Lighting.

As residents living across Woodrow Street from the south end-zone; I and my family are directly impacted by this proposal.

Edgewood's wish to add stadium lighting has been rejected since the Master Plan process began in 1996 (now rescinded) because this physical improvement that would allow a fundamentally incompatible use in our neighborhood. Uncontrollable crowd and game (play-by-play, whistles, sirens, etc.) noise is the primary stressor that has always been cited as the key factor. This has been documented by Edgewood's own and the neighborhoods sound consultants.

Permitting lighting for night games will extend the significant disruption we have experienced from Edgewood's day games last year into an all evening agony. This may make living in our house untenable.

We are nearing retirement and had hoped to age-in-place, which we may no longer see as feasible. This change-in-use will also negatively affect our largest asset (our assessment has already flattened). Who will compensate us for this "taking" of the value, use and enjoyment of our property? Edgewood or the permit issuer? We are but one household, however the values and the quality of life of the surrounding neighborhoods are also at stake.

The City of Madison should do what Edgewood's own mediator did in the early Master Plan process and deny this proposal. A flat-out denial from the City will finally bring this specific contentious element to closure. Please vote No on Plan Commission item #16.

Respectfully,

William C. Rattunde  
838 Woodrow Street  
Madison, WI 53711  
(c.) 608-347-4708

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Bill Rattunde  
608-347-4708 (c.)

**From:** [Julie Schmitt](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!  
**Date:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 4:56:33 PM

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Thank you for your unbiased supporting the lighting for Edgewood's athletic field.

Julie & Bill Schmitt

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Edgewood conditional use permit  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 9:51:58 AM

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**From:** sobekcs@charter.net <sobekcs@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 08, 2020 9:29 AM  
**To:** Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allallders@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Edgewood conditional use permit

Mayor, Plan Commission, and Common Council:

I am opposed to the Edgewood request for a conditional use permit to install stadium lights.

I live in the Regent neighborhood that sits between Edgewood and West High School. West and East High Schools are in densely populated neighborhoods, as is Edgewood. These city funded schools do not have athletic fields with lights. They make use of the fields at other city schools that are not directly adjacent to densely populated neighborhoods. My children graduated from West High School and were not adversely affected by not having a stadium with lights at their school. Why should a private school, located within the city and within a densely populated neighborhood, be allowed to have stadium lights?

Why, after decades of Edgewood making arrangements to play their games at other fields, do they now need to have lights at their stadium? It is a reasonable assumption, that in addition to use by their students, Edgewood expects to create a revenue producing venue at their stadium. The history of Edgewood's communication with the neighborhood, and now this conditional use permit request, confirms that Edgewood does not intend to work with the neighborhood unless the neighborhood agrees with their demands. Edgewood obviously has no concern for the impact of their demands on the neighborhood, and the likely adverse effect on property values for those close to Edgewood. It appears Edgewood concerns are entirely tied to the anticipation of future revenue from their stadium.

As a resident of the Regent Neighborhood, and a city taxpayer, I respectfully request that the Edgewood request for the conditional use permit for stadium lights is denied by the Plan Commission.

Thank you,  
Carol Sobek  
2247 Rowley Ave.  
Madison

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Files for Plan Commission, Edgewood  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 10:58:23 AM  
**Attachments:** [Light complaint.pdf](#)  
[Tucker no enforcement.pdf](#)  
[Edgewood High School athletic field competitive use 2019.pdf](#)  
[MTrest letter Plan Commission file 60006.pdf](#)

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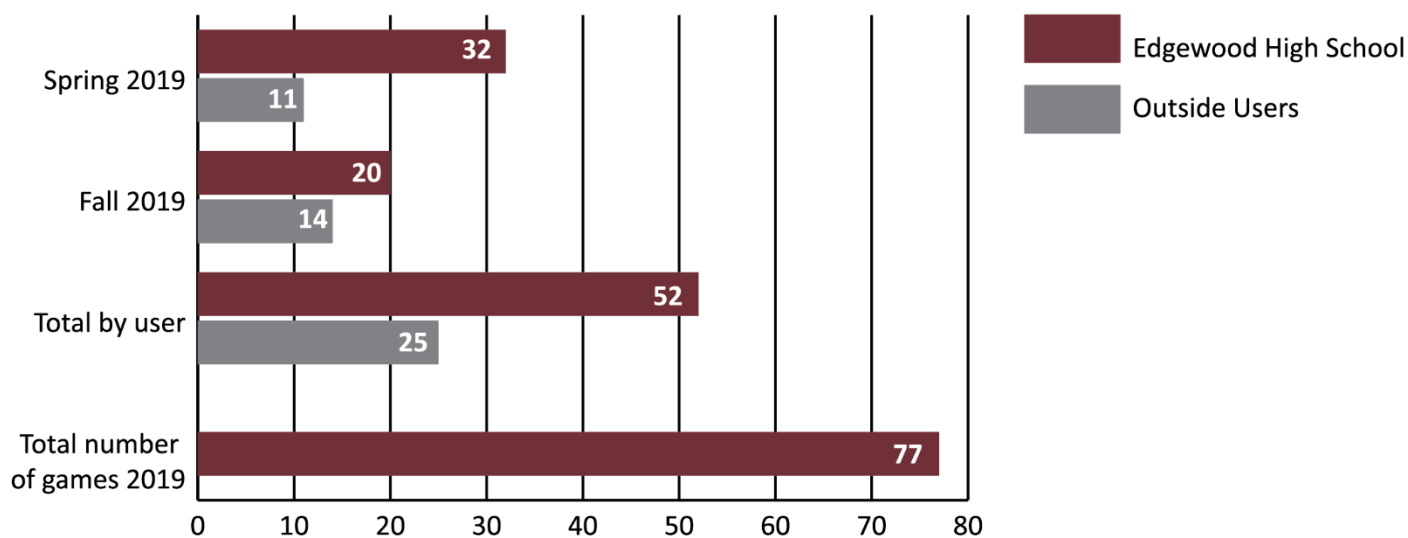
**From:** Marie Trest <mttrest@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 10:56 AM  
**To:** Parks, Timothy <TParks@cityofmadison.com>; Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>; Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Files for Plan Commission, Edgewood

Dear Planning Staff,

Please add these files to the Plan Commission for file 60006.

Thank you,  
Marie Trest

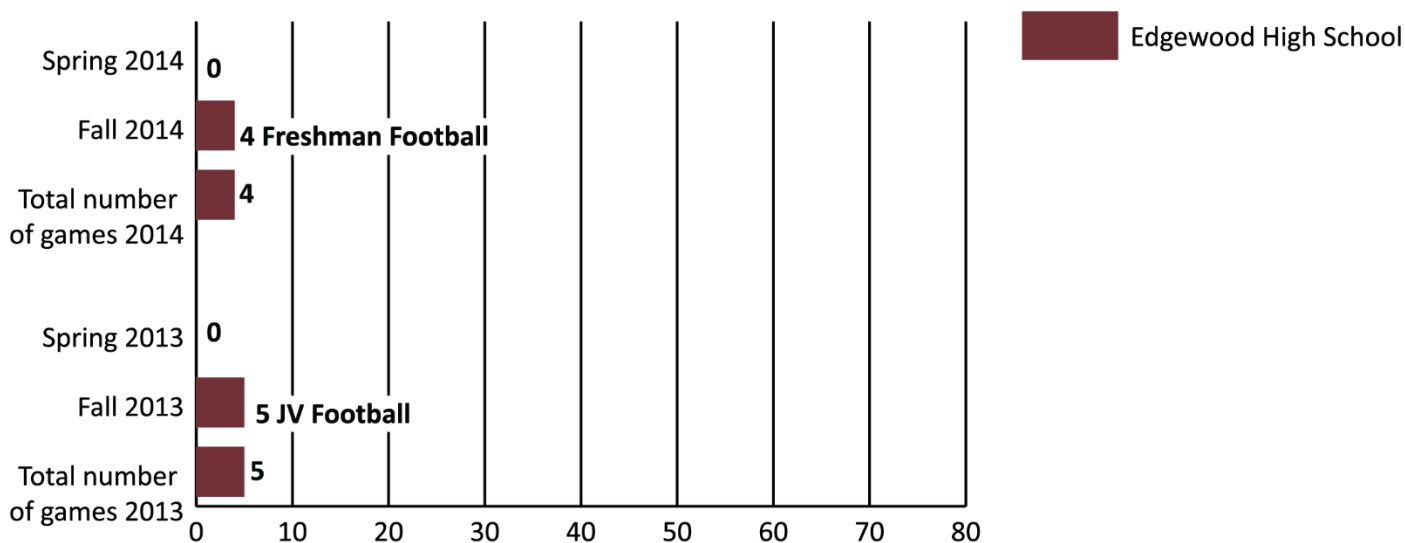
## Competitive games observed by neighbors\* in 2019 on Edgewood High School practice field



\*incomplete list; Edgewood refused to provide a schedule of field use to the neighborhood.

## Games on Edgewood High School practice field, before surface update

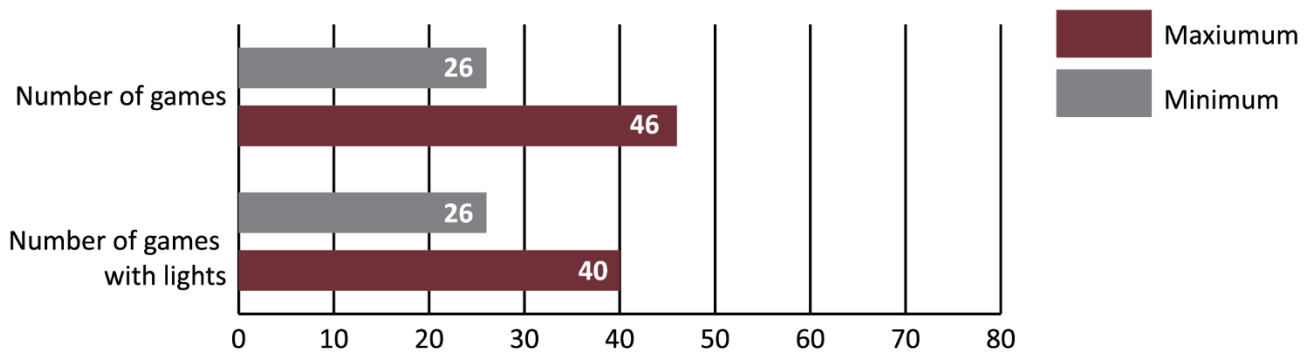
Data from BadgerConference.org



## Number of games proposed by Edgewood High School in 2018

### Master Plan amendment presentation

Edgewood's Goodman Athletic Complex Presentation, October 2018





# Competitive Daytime Games observed by neighbors\* in 2019 on Edgewood High School practice field

Non-Edgewood High School use identified in bold typeface

\*incomplete list; Edgewood refused to provide a schedule of field use to the neighborhood.

€ column indicates total game count

^ column indicates non-Edgewood High School game count

€	^	Spring 2019	sport	example noise levels	
1		26 March 2019	Varsity Soccer, girls	Scoreboard siren 72.9dB on Woodrow St	
2		29 March 2019	Varsity Soccer, girls	Scoreboard siren 70.6dB on residential property	
3	1	30 March 2019	<b>Varsity Soccer, girls</b>	<b>West Salem vs Belleville</b>	
4		30 March 2019	Varsity Soccer, girls		
5		2 April 2019	Varsity Soccer, girls		
6	2	6 April 2019	<b>Lacrosse, men</b>	<b>WI red vs Iowa</b>	<b>Great Lakes</b>
7	3	6 April 2019	<b>Lacrosse, men</b>	<b>UW Whitewater vs WI red</b>	<b>Lacrosse League</b>
8	4	6 April 2019	<b>Lacrosse, men</b>	<b>Iowa vs UW Whitewater</b>	<b>(College)</b>
9		12 April 2019	JV2 Soccer, girls		
10	5	13 April 2019	<b>Lacrosse, men</b>	<b>UW Stevens Point vs Western Illinois</b>	
11	6	13 April 2019	<b>Lacrosse, men</b>	<b>Northern Illinois vs Gustavus Adolphus</b>	<b>Great Lakes</b>
12	7	13 April 2019	<b>Lacrosse, men</b>	<b>UW Stevens Point vs Winona</b>	<b>Lacrosse League</b>
13	8	13 April 2019	<b>Lacrosse, men</b>	<b>Northern Illinois vs Wisconsin White</b>	<b>College</b>
14	9	13 April 2019	<b>Lacrosse, men</b>	<b>Winona State vs Wisconsin White</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
15	10	13 April 2019	<b>Lacrosse, men</b>	<b>Western Illinois vs Gustavus Adolphus</b>	
16		16 April 2019	JV2 Soccer, girls		
17		18 April 2019	Varsity Lacrosse, boys		
18		18 April 2019	JV Lacrosse, boys		
19		23 April 2019	Varsity Lacrosse, boys		
20		29 April 2019	JV2 Soccer, girls		
21		30 April 2019	Varsity Lacrosse, boys	whistles 76dB at house	
22		30 April 2019	JV Lacrosse, boys		
23		3 May 2019	Varsity Soccer, girls		
24	11	5 May 2019	<b>Middle School Track Meet, coed</b>	pistol 73dB at house	
25		6 May 2019	Varsity Lacrosse, boys		
26		6 May 2019	JV Lacrosse, boys		
27		7 May 2019	Track Meet, coed		
28		11 May 2019	JV Lacrosse, boys		
29		11 May 2019	Varsity Lacrosse, boys		
30		18 May 2019	JV Lacrosse, boys		
31		18 May 2019	Varsity Lacrosse, boys		
32		21 May 2019	Varsity Lacrosse, boys		
33		21 May 2019	JV Lacrosse, boys		

## Competitive Daytime Games observed by neighbors in 2019 on Edgewood High School practice field, continued

Non-Edgewood High School use identified in bold typeface

€ column indicates total game count

^ column indicates non-Edgewood High School game count

€	^	Spring 2019, cont.	sport	example noise levels
34		22 May 2019	Ultimate, girls	
35		23 May 2019	Varsity Soccer, girls	amplified sound 66-70dB at house
36		29 May 2019	Varsity Lacrosse, girls	
37		30 May 2019	Varsity Soccer, girls	
38		30 May 2019	Lacrosse, boys	
39		1 June 2019	Varsity Soccer, girls	
40		1 June 2019	Lacrosse, girls	
41		5 June 2019	Varsity Lacrosse, girls	
42		6 June 2019	Varsity Soccer, girls	amplified sound 66-70dB at house
43		8 June 2019	Varsity Soccer, girls	crowd noise over 74dB with peaks at 84 dB at house
<i>Summer 2019 use</i>				
		26-27 June 2019	<b>Commercial Football Camp: Jeff Trickey Quarterback Camps</b>	
€	^	Fall 2019	sport	example noise levels
44		22 August 2019	JV-2 Football, boys	
45		30 August 2019	Varsity Soccer, boys	
46		5 September 2019	Varsity Soccer, boys	
47		7 September 2019	Varsity Soccer, boys	
48		8 September 2019	Club Lacrosse, boys	
49		8 September 2019	Club Lacrosse, boys	whistles 71dB at house
50		8 September 2019	Club Lacrosse, boys	
51		12 September 2019	JV-2 Football, boys	
52		15 September 2019	Club Lacrosse, boys	
53	12	15 September 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>Sun Prairie vs Verona</b>
54	13	15 September 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>Deforest vs Oregon</b>
55		19 September 2019	JV-2 Football, boys	
		23 September 2019	"powderpuff" event	6:30-6:47 am crowd noise peaks over 80dB inside bedroom
		24 September 2019	"powderpuff" game	6:49 am crowd noise 82 db, whistles over 70dB inside bedroom
56		27 September 2019	Varsity Soccer, boys	

# Competitive Daytime Games observed by neighbors in 2019 on Edgewood High School practice field, continued

Non-Edgewood High School use identified in bold typeface

€ column indicates total game count

^ column indicates non-Edgewood High School game count

€	^	Fall 2019, cont.	sport	
57	14	29 September 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>Sun Prairie vs Oregon</b>
58		29 September 2019	Club Lacrosse, boys	
59	15	29 September 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>Verona vs DeForest</b>
60		3 October 2019	JV-2 Football, boys	
61		6 October 2019	Club Lacrosse, boys	
62	16	6 October 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>Oregon vs Verona</b>
63	17	6 October 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>DeForest vs Sun Prairie</b>
64	18	13 October 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>Verona vs DeForest</b>
65		13 October 2019	Club Lacrosse, boys	
66	19	13 October 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>Oregon vs Sun Prairie</b>
67		17 October 2019	JV-2 Football, boys	
68		20 October 2019	Club Lacrosse, boys	
69	20	20 October 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>DeForest vs Oregon</b>
70	21	20 October 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>Verona vs Sun Prairie</b>
71		24 October 2019	Varsity Soccer, boys	
72	22	26 October 2019	<b>Flag Football, coed</b>	<b>Madison Area Independent Sports League tournament</b>
73		27 October 2019	Club Lacrosse, boys	
74		27 October 2019	Club Lacrosse, boys	
75	23	27 October 2019	<b>Flag Football, coed</b>	<b>Madison Area Independent Sports League tournament</b>
76	24	3 November 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>Oregon, Verona, and other teams</b>
77	25	3 November 2019	<b>Club Lacrosse, boys</b>	<b>Oregon, Janesville, Verona and other teams</b>



Marie Trest <mttrest@gmail.com>

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## Complaint regarding illegal activity at 2219 Monroe Street

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Marie Trest <mttrest@gmail.com>

Sat, Apr 25, 2020 at 1:24 PM

To: bldginspect@cityofmadison.com

Cc: hstouder@cityofmadison.com, Tag Evers <District13@cityofmadison.com>, ghank@cityofmadison.com

Dear Building Inspector,

This is a formal complaint regarding what I believe to be illegal activity on the property of Edgewood High School at 2219 Monroe Street.

On April 24, beginning at 8:40 pm, I observed activity taking place on the athletic field at 2219 Monroe Street that I believe to be in violation of the City's Lighting Ordinance and Noise Ordinance. The attached photo, taken from my home, was taken at 8:58 pm and the activity continued past 9:00 pm.

### *LIGHTING VIOLATION*

Some sort of large lighting equipment was being operated upon the field and was illuminating a large area and aimed such that there was a direct line of sight from the source to the windows of my home. This source was clearly brighter than 1000 initial lumens (70 W incandescent), as it was many times brighter than other outdoor lighting on the property, and illuminated an area on the ground of several thousand square feet.

This light source meets the definition of "Outdoor Lighting Fixture" in MGO 10.085, which includes "electrically powered illuminating devices, lighted or reflective surfaces, lamps and similar devices, permanently installed or portable, used for illumination or for advertisement. Such devices shall include, but are not limited to, searchlights, spotlights, floodlights, streetlights, sign lights, security lights, wall lights, porch lights, area lights, parking area lights, sports lights and sign panels."

As my front windows meet the criteria of "a point five (5) feet or higher above the ground at the property boundary" and there was a "a direct line of sight between the light source or its reflection" and that point, this light was in violation of MGO 10.085(3)(2). Furthermore, the light was "of such intensity so as to cause discomfort or annoyance" inside my home, which is additionally in violation of the same ordinance.

### *NOISE ORDINANCE VIOLATION*

Presumably in connection to the operation of the lights, there was what sounded like a large diesel engine being continuously and steadily operated from a fixed point of land on the field. The noise was audible inside my home and was clearly in excess of the 65 dB limit in MGO 24.08(6)(a). I believe this noise to be in violation of MGO 24.08. This is a formal complaint regarding that noise to the Director of the Building Inspection Division under MGO 24.08(4)(b)(2)(a).

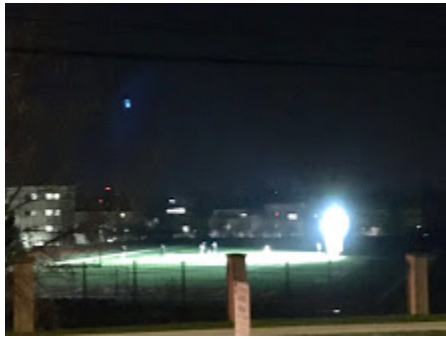
Given the current emergency situation in which our city is operating, I did not call the police at that time. While I understand it may be difficult to investigate what may be one-off violation that is not ongoing, due to the extensive recent history of lawbreaking on this property, I feel that it is critical to the community's interests that this be investigated.

Thank you,

Marie Trest

2310 Monroe St

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**Trest EHS lights IMG-6321.jpg**  
1860K

Dear Members of the Plan Commission,

I respectfully ask that you deny Edgewood High School's application for lighting to allow for night games and practices that would substantially impair the use and enjoyment of surrounding properties. This location's close proximity to residential property make it incompatible for evening activity. Our property is 95 ft from the track with exposure like this:



*The 2015 field surface change and subsequent change in use has substantially impaired our use and enjoyment of our property during daylight hours due to excessive noise; permitting lights would further extend that extremely negative impact into the evening and night.*

When the City Zoning Administrator and Alder approved the update to the field surface in 2015, it was with the understanding that the use would continue as a practice field under the Master Plan. The surrounding community never had the opportunity to weigh in on a changed use or to ask for conditions. For decades, field use was for practices, and 4-6 games took place in a season. After the 2015 surface change, neighbors immediately experienced a significant change in use of the field, both in terms of the number of events, from 4 in 2013 and 2014 to 77 in 2019, and a corresponding increase in the related noise and disruptiveness.

As one example, the video linked below was filmed Oct. 25, 2018 at 5:23pm, with no zoom, from an open bedroom window as would typically be the case in spring, summer, and fall. Before filming, I took sound measurements using the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Sound Level Meter app on my iPhone. While I understand this is not a professional study, the app has operated within +/- 2 dB of a calibrated sound meter, so readings provide a reasonable estimate of noise. Crowd noise was above 70 dB throughout

the cheering with peaks above 80 dB in our home. Subsequent measurements during games had crowd noise at 85dB. All of these measurements are consistent with the two professional sound studies that have been performed.

Please note the increase in sound at 0:31 when the goal is scored; impulse noise, considered particularly harmful by the World Health Organization, has been particularly disruptive to surrounding properties with the games played on the field.

<https://youtu.be/v6Igzncy-zg>

Even practices are audible in surrounding homes with impulse noises including repeated whistles and group cheering. The scoreboard has a stationary amplified siren-type sound that is used at short intervals during events, penetrating our living room and bedrooms. All of these sounds exceed Madison's noise ordinance limits as well as WHO recommendations (see attached *Edgewood High School competitive use 2019.pdf* for examples).

The increased frequency of game events on the Edgewood High School practice field have negatively impacted the livability of our property, whether working or doing schoolwork, gardening, relaxing on our back porch, watching a movie, or sharing a meal; the noise interrupts and disrupts. Neighbors with younger children or who work night-shifts report disrupted sleep – a harm that would be expanded with lights.

*History shows Edgewood will not comply with conditions, and the City will not enforce them.*

Under MGO 28.183 (6) (b) *Conditions*:

1. Before granting a conditional use, the Plan Commission may stipulate conditions and restrictions on the establishment, location, construction, maintenance and operation of the conditional use. In doing so, **the Plan Commission may consider** overdue taxes and/or fees and ***the applicant's history of compliance with relevant ordinances and approvals, including but not limited to, building and minimum housing code, zoning code and zoning approvals***, and alcohol license provisions and approvals.

I submit an extraordinary history of Edgewood's non-compliance with zoning code. Please see the attached file *Edgewood High School competitive use 2019.pdf*, which documents field use observed by neighbors in 2019.

The City zoning administrator found that the Master Plan limited field use to practices and education, and the Zoning Board of Appeals affirmed that games could not be played without a Master Plan amendment. Rather than submitting an amendment and going through the legal process, Edgewood allowed 77 games to be played including outside users like UW-Whitewater and Iowa, colleges that have nothing to do with Edgewood. The City issued notices of violation, but Edgewood ignored them. The surrounding community reported every single violation, and *the City never took any enforcement action*.

As further evidence of complete disregard for City ordinance, Edgewood set up temporary lights on the field on April 24, 2020, *while they have a pending application for lights*. This was a likely violation of MGO 10.085(3)(2). An image from our residential property follows; note there is no buffer between the houses on Monroe St and the field:





From the field it looked like this; please note how close the Woodrow St house is to the field:



photo from Edgewood High School Facebook page



I submitted a formal complaint about the light and generator noise to building inspection; see attached file *Light complaint.pdf*. Again, the response was, “The City will not be taking any enforcement action relative to this incident.” (See attached file *Tucker no enforcement.pdf*)

This application should be denied outright, without conditions. For the past several years, the burden has been on neighbors to report violations. We have dutifully done as the city asked with no relief.

Even if the Plan Commission suggests conditions for lights, Edgewood has not followed city zoning ordinances in the past, nor has the City enforced them. Given Edgewood’s specific history of non-compliance, the Plan Commission should conclude that Edgewood’s representations that it will comply with all ordinances are not supported by substantial evidence as required.

*The surrounding infrastructure cannot handle the traffic or parking.*

While this is of less concern to me than noise and lights, the existing conditions of traffic should be mentioned. I submit this video from March 13, 2020, at the time school lets out, from a regular school day. Here is a clip showing the regular, dangerous traffic conditions that exist when school ends. With larger events, or even a football game between two high schools, this situation would be exacerbated. The impact is not consistent with the City’s overall intention regarding Monroe Street reflected in the Monroe Street Reconstruction Plan, i.e. that the street retain it’s residential character and not become a major thoroughfare.

<https://youtu.be/nMCM0xqV-Jc>

Please note the repeated crossing of the centerline into oncoming traffic.

Further, the parking lot is completely full each day with the surrounding street parking also full from the three Edgewood campus schools. Most families do not live in the neighborhood. If there are night games, parents may join students at Edgewood in addition to the opposing teams and their supporters, with nowhere on campus available to park. Edgewood mentions the total number of parking spaces on campus, but ignores the fact that many of those spaces are taken up by night classes and other nighttime events. There is no information in the application that addresses that point and provides a fact-based net number of spaces for use by attendees at night games.

There have already been conflicts in Vilas and Dudgeon Monroe with off-campus student parking and resulting littering and vandalism. Many blocks on surrounding streets have voted to change to restricted parking to alleviate this conflict. Having events ending into the night, after 11pm, with students spilling out into the surrounding community will lead to more problems.

As one example, I heard honking and screaming one night at 11:30pm. Thinking there was an accident, I got up and went outside to find the disruption came from students screaming swear words from the high school and honking at the traffic light after Homecoming at Edgewood High School. Those locations are farther from our house than the athletic field.

If this is the behavior following a formal dance, what could the community expect after a football game?

I have written a long letter. I appreciate your giving this critical neighborhood issue your attention. Maybe take another look at the video from my window and listen to the noise. If you live on a two lane road in a residential neighborhood, picture that across the street from your house as you try to enjoy the evening and night time hours.

Please, preserve the livability and value of the residential neighborhood surrounding Edgewood, and deny the permit to expand stadium use into the night.

Sincerely,  
Marie Trest  
Dennis Trest  
2310 Monroe St



Marie Trest <mttrest@gmail.com>

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## Recent temporary lighting on the Edgewood Athletic Field.

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**Tucker, Matthew** <MTucker@cityofmadison.com>  
To: "Tucker, Matthew" <MTucker@cityofmadison.com>  
Cc: "Evers, Tag" <district13@cityofmadison.com>

Mon, Apr 27, 2020 at 9:33 AM

*Hello- I am sending this message to a small group of individuals who recently contacted me about this issue.*

Recently you informed our office of some temporary lighting you observed on the Edgewood Athletic Field. I did some investigating and I would like to share what I found:

[https://www.wissports.net/news\\_article/show/1100194](https://www.wissports.net/news_article/show/1100194) *Join the #BeTheLightWI Campaign to spread support & hope for high school student-athletes*

This appears to be a single isolated incident, not uncommon for what we have observe during these unusual times. The City will not be taking any enforcement action relative to this incident.

Let me now if you have any questions.

### **Matt Tucker**

Zoning Administrator

Building Inspection Division



**215 Martin Luther King jr Blvd. STE 017**

Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2984

Telephone: 608 266 4569

Email: [mtucker@cityofmadison.com](mailto:mtucker@cityofmadison.com)

[www.cityofmadison.com/bi](http://www.cityofmadison.com/bi)

*The **2020 Census** is coming in March, and the Census Bureau is hiring! Jobs start at \$22/hr. For more, visit [2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs). To learn more about why a complete count is important, visit [www.cityofmadison.com/2020census](https://www.cityofmadison.com/2020census). #MadisonCounts #2020Census*

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Edgewood High School's Sports Facility Plan  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 8:03:20 AM

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**From:** Rand Valentine <j.rand.valentine@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2020 4:29 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Edgewood High School's Sports Facility Plan

To the Plan Commission,

I am writing as a taxpayer and long-time resident of Monroe Street, to express my very strong opposition to Edgewood High School's request to turn their practice field into a full-scale day-and-night sports facility. This will result in egregious violations of the peace and well-being of everyone living in the vicinity. Already we do our share for our fellow Madisonians, as Monroe Street is a major commuter artery, filled daily with thousands of automobiles, bringing noise and hazard to everyone who lives along its path. It is the rare driver who goes down Monroe Street at the posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour—our street serves for these people merely as a means to the quiet streets where most of them live. There are speed bumps on many streets around Monroe, designed to channel commuters through inconvenience onto Monroe, where we have our lives. These streets have the same speed limit that Monroe does, by the way.

Already too we have at one end of our street one of the loudest stadiums in Wisconsin. On the days of games, there is bumper-to-bumper traffic down Monroe, both before a game and after. People park in our neighborhoods, and walk to the stadium, converting our streets into parking lots on every game day. We already suffer far more than our fair share of inconvenience for our fellow Madison sports fans.

How many families make their lives on our streets? Do they not have rights to reasonable quiet in the evening? Edgewood students may come to our neighborhood for four years, then they are gone, likely never to return. How many Edgewood families will be affected by the noise and light of evening games? Meanwhile, we live here, day in and day out, year in and year out. We will be affected by *every* game. It is not right to privilege Edgewood's transient interests over our permanent well-being. It is not right to so negatively affect the quality of our lives. My guess is that Edgewood is desperate for revenue, and once the field is converted into a nighttime sports venue, it will be rented out at every possible opportunity. Edgewood has shown itself to be a very poor neighbor, refusing to negotiate and threatening absurd lawsuits if the neighborhood and city don't capitulate to its demands for evening amusements at our great expense. They have become bullies. I once had respect for Edgewood, I no longer do. Their behavior in this process has been despicable. Please do not grant them license to so harm us.

Thank you.

Rand Valentine  
2901 Monroe Street  
Madison, WI

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I live 3 blocks from Edgewood - Vote No on Item Agenda 16 at 5/11/20 Plan Commission meeting  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 8:02:26 AM

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

From: pat.patwilliams@gmail.com <pat.patwilliams@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 8:29 PM  
To: Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: I live 3 blocks from Edgewood - Vote No on Item Agenda 16 at 5/11/20 Plan Commission meeting

Please vote NO on lights for Edgewood High School Athletic Field. I have lived in my house on Keyes Ave for 37 years.

I hope that you use the immediate neighborhood's feedback to make your decision on Edgewood's application for a Conditional Use Permit for lights.

As I understand it, Edgewood has encouraged their supporters (alumni for example) from around the country to communicate their support for lights. The neighborhood can't compete in terms of numbers of Edgewood's alumni, students and colleagues. Rather than rely on numbers of responses, please analyze where they come from.

Please vote NO on Edgewood's Conditional Use Permit for lights because:

- If approved, Edgewood have unlimited nighttime use of the field, with no limits on the number of games, no limits on how late the lights can stay on, nor limits on renting the field out for nighttime use by other third party groups
- Edgewood said that field lighting would not create additional noise. Games create noise! Without lighting, field noise ends when the sun goes down since games won't be played at night.
- Edgewood said they have re-established communication with our Alder and are committed to dialogue with the neighborhood. EHS stopped inviting Alder Evers to liaison committee meetings.
- EHS also ignored Alder Evers request to delay the Plan Commission vote until after the pandemic so that members of the community could be physically present at the Plan Commission meeting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Patricia D. Williams  
1916 Keyes Ave  
Madison, WI. 53711  
608-219-5287

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Cc:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Oppose the EHS lighting application  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 11:30:49 AM

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**From:** Evers, Tag  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 11:30 AM  
**To:** Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Oppose the EHS lighting application

Please add to the file.

Thanks.

---

Tag Evers

**DISTRICT 13 ALDER**  
CITY OF MADISON  
(608) 424-2580  
[district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com)

Subscribe to my blog at [www.cityofmadison.com/council/district13/blog](http://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district13/blog)

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**From:** Jude Edmonds <[judecafe@gmail.com](mailto:judecafe@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 11:19 AM  
**To:** All Alders  
**Subject:** Oppose the EHS lighting application

To the City Council,

I was actually astounded as I just computed that our home on Commonwealth Ave. between Keyes and Gregory St. is approximately 800 feet from the Edgewood playing field. We have lived in our home for 31 years. Spending hours in my front yard garden has always been a source of joy, encompassing both quiet reflection and community.

And from my backyard I can clearly hear every word coming from the loud speaker during track meets, not to mention the starting gun.

But I fear most for how the constant lights and noise will disturb and harm the ecosystem, the lake and the wildlife. There will be enduring harm from Edgewood's extremely selfish proposal.

The uses, values and enjoyment of my residence will be substantially impaired and diminished by the bright lights, loud noise and traffic that accompany competitive night games.

Edgewood is already permitted to play unlimited day games. Unlimited night games would be disruptive to the entire community and destructive to the ecosystem surrounding the Edgewood campus.

I'm urging you to vote NO on Edgewood's application for stadium lights.  
Thank you,



Jude Edmonds  
2438 Commonwealth Ave.

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood's lights (agenda item 16)  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 2:05:52 PM

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**From:** Zentner, David <DZentner@madisoncollege.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 2:00 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Edgewood's lights (agenda item 16)

Thank you for convening during a tough time.

Sorry you have to... and I'm sorry that Edgewood has pretended to take the community's concerns into account, then just acted like they have no civic responsibility.

After hosting a public forum and claiming they were "good neighbors", they kept playing loud games (with VERY loud PA systems and crowd noise), and now they're trying again to add lighting so they can continue that noise into the evenings.

We live off Monroe Street on Terry Place, and can tell you every word that gets shouted into their PA system.

I'm sure you've read the comments\* from Tag Evers on his attempts to reason with Edgewood. Apparently they've ignored neighbors' concerns and chosen now to plow ahead with lights... and more noise.

We can't go out there and reason with them.  
But you can stop them.

**Dave**

David S. Zentner

(whose kids went to West High, but had to travel to the Memorial High stadium for football games... and didn't mind:)

\*Here's Tag's well-reasoned approach:

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district13/blog/?!d=22367>

*"It's not reasonable to attempt to resolve this controversy in the middle of a global pandemic."*

*"I am requesting the Plan Commission turn down Edgewood's conditional use application for several reasons..."*

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vote NO on lights at Edgewood High School  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 2:02:29 PM

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**From:** Janet Zentner <janetzentner@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 10:57 AM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Vote NO on lights at Edgewood High School

To the Plan Commission,

The uses, values and enjoyment of my residence will be substantially impaired and diminished by the bright lights, loud noise and TRAFFIC that accompany competitive night games. I live very close to the field. I currently hear the increased noise generated by Edgewood's permitted, unlimited day games . Unlimited night games would be disruptive to the entire community and destructive to the environment.

Please vote NO on Edgewood's application for stadium lights. I have lived here for almost 30 years and Edgewood has existed all these years with competitive athletic teams without stadium lights. I believe other options can be explored by Edgewood.

Thank you,

Janet Zentner  
849 Terry Place  
Madison

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Plan Commission item 60001: Now Is absolutely the perfect time to approve Edgewood High School athletic field lighting proposal and allow work to be done  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 2:02:17 PM

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

From: Jon Woods <jpwoods@charter.net>  
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 11:01 AM  
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; Parks, Timothy <TParks@cityofmadison.com>  
Cc: Bidar, Shiva <district5@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: Plan Commission item 60001: Now Is absolutely the perfect time to approve Edgewood High School athletic field lighting proposal and allow work to be done

Dear Plan Commission and Tim Parks,

I support and recommend approval of the Edgewood High School athletic field lighting proposal scheduled as item 60001 on the Plan Commission agenda for the 5/11/20 meeting.

I believe the proposal is adequately justified, is an appropriate use of the applicant's property, and has been designed after abundant interaction with neighbors and consideration of issues that have been raised.

The tragic Covid-19 pandemic has lead to very reasonable and appreciated Stay-At-Home orders and recommendations from the State, County, and City, with exceptions for essential businesses and work. A rare silver lining is the opportunity for advancing a massive amount of public and private construction projects, taking advantage of people staying at home, people not using facilities or spaces as they normally would, and reduced traffic. In addition to getting the work accomplished, this fosters continued employment of all workers involved in these projects.

The Edgewood High School athletic field lighting project should also take advantage of this opportunity, getting the work done now during the Spring and Summer, before students return and activities resume in whatever way they will in the Fall.

Thank you for your efforts and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,  
Jon Woods

cc: Alder Shiva Bidar

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Jon Woods  
143 Glenway St  
Madison, WI 53705

jpwoods@charter.net



**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood's Plan  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 2:02:02 PM

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**From:** Cindy Schlichte <cindy@toolshed.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 11:05 AM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; mayor@cityofmadison; Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Edgewood's Plan

Hello -

I am emailing you today to voice my concern over the Edgewood's permit application for lights. We do not live adjacent to Edgewood but live nearby in the Greenbush neighborhood. We take many walks and bike rides throughout the Greenbush, Vilas, and Dudgeon Monroe neighborhood and frequent the paths behind Edgewood. We enjoy utilizing the Sunday Farmers Market at Edgewood and often ride our bikes down the Edgewood path. We enjoy many things about Monroe Street and support our local community as much as we can. That said we have major concerns about the development of Edgewood's (EW) existing playing field into a stadium in an already dense area for several reasons.

1. We have concerns over the lights and sound system on the natural area and to the homes adjacent and nearby. Recently, we've been blessed with two great horned owlets in the neighborhood. We believe that added sound and lights will drive out owls and other wonderful creatures that we both enjoy and need to provide a stable ecosystem. We also appreciate having some peace and quiet in our own homes following a long day at work or a long workweek.
2. We have concerns over the number of events/competitions and EW's ability to rent out the stadium. People often compare EW to Camp Randall. It is true that we are at times "inconvenienced" by the events at Camp Randall, but the operative word here is "at times." While the number of Camp Randall attendees overshadows those who will attend games at EW, we can count on three hands the number of events that Camp Randall holds per year. Add these crowds to a busy day at the zoo, and it is not just "noisy" in the immediate area, it is jammed packed full of people with little wiggle room for our neighbors and us. We would imagine that EW's stadium use will coincide with many of the already crowded days and weekends in our neighborhood where many of the attendees are unfamiliar with the neighborhood and not know where to park.
3. We feel that EW's plan not only lacks thoughtful consideration to the adjacent homes, but to local businesses as well. Attendees to football games and soccer tournaments will not likely frequent our valuable restaurants, cafes and retail shops on Monroe Street. In fact, they may have negative consequences for Monroe St businesses. With added traffic and little to no parking, those who come to enjoy the bounty our Monroe St businesses have to offer are likely not to frequent Monroe St as often. Monroe St businesses have suffered not just one but two set backs in the past few years with the road construction and now the impact of Covid19.
4. Lastly, We feel that EW's plan serve very few in the neighborhood. EW is a valuable asset to our community and we desire to see it thrive. At the same time, how do we

balance the overall needs of each community member? What I like about this area of Madison is that there are many organizations and businesses that contribute to a symbiotic relationship. Wingra Boats helps residents get out on Lake Wingra to enjoy the natural beauty and build good stewardship by offering classes and boat rentals for all ages. Science Thursdays helps educate our kids by sharing info about local animal inhabitants and their importance to our lives. Pizza Brutta, Brasserie V, Crescendo, Barriques, Zip Dang, etc are a few locally owned businesses that employ local people and provide local goods. Monroe Street Farmers Market has local vendors selling locally grown produce and locally made food products to the nearby community. These examples have broad reaching impact while EW's stadium, in our opinion, doesn't seem to add to that. My examples don't negatively impact the environment through increased lights, sound and traffic while that is exactly what EW's plan does.

Please vote to oppose the current proposal and encourage Edgewood to find an alternative plan that work for all.

Regards,  
Cindy Schlichte & Alex Wong

S Randall Avenue



**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comments on agenda item #60001  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 2:00:49 PM

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**From:** Sara Record Frings <sararecordfrings@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 1:19 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Comments on agenda item #60001

On social media this past year, I have seen a lot of Edgewood stadium supporters telling the Edgewood neighbors that when they bought homes near the high school, they should have expected the noise, traffic and lighting levels of a high school stadium -- even though no stadium was in place or planned at the time.

I disagree strongly with this argument.

I live a block from West High and about six blocks from Camp Randall, so I know something about moving in close to large existing facilities. I fully accept the traffic and noise levels created by both, because those were known quantities when I chose this location. I enjoy the roar of the stadium and the football crowds in the fall. But if the use of those facilities changed drastically, and that roar were to be going on in my immediate neighborhood several nights of the week, spring and fall both, the charm would wear off very quickly.

I sympathize with Edgewood's desire for a home field, but they are asking for far too much from the neighborhood. Last year, the number of potential evening sporting events being bandied around was 40. Imagine 40 evenings of amplified sound and crowd noise right across from your house, spring and fall. And now, as I understand it, they are asking for approval with no limits at all on the number of events.

I do not see why a small private high school (it is not even primarily a neighborhood school) should be allowed to impinge on its neighbors more than a huge public institution like UW Madison. I would support Edgewood if they simply wanted to play home football games on their field with light and sound -- but they are asking for SO MUCH MORE than that.

Clear limits need to be set to protect the neighborhood. And there needs to be a clear method of enforcing those limits, because I do not believe that Edgewood will police itself.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Sara Record Frings  
2215 Van Hise Avenue, Madison WI 53726

**From:** [seaweeney@aol.com](mailto:seaweeney@aol.com)  
**To:** [Parks, Timothy](#)  
**Subject:** Lights at Edgewood High School  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 12:55:12 PM

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Hi my name is Peter Sweeney, I went to Edgewood High School from 1970 to 1974. My two children will go there in a few years. It is a great place and school. I played all sports but my favorite was football. I practiced on the old field that my Dad had practiced on in 1945. I remember him telling me they had to pick stones off the field before every practice. They went undefeated that year. One of the things we had in common was that we never had a home field to play our games on, we were always the away team. A huge disadvantage for us. Now that the kids have a beautiful field to practice on, please allow them to have a home field to play games on. Please support lights at Edgewood so future players won't have to go through what my Dad and I had to. Thank you very much, Peter Sweeney

**From:** [Caitlin Zant](#)  
**To:** [Verveer, Michael](#); [Planning](#); [All Alders](#); [Mayor](#); [Evers, Tag](#); [Parks, Timothy](#); [Stouder, Heather](#); [ajstatz2@madison.k12.wi.us](#); [bacantrell@charter.net](#); [erics@cows.org](#); [jshagenow@yahoo.com](#); [klandespenner@uwalumni.com](#); [keetrasburn@gmail.com](#); [ledell.zellers@gmail.com](#); [Lemmer, Lindsay](#); [Rummel, Marsha](#); [Heck, Patrick](#)  
**Subject:** Vote Against Edgewood's Conditional Use Permit Application  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 1:42:13 PM

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Hello,

I am writing in opposition to #60001, the Conditional Use Permit Application for Edgewood's Stadium Lights.

As a concerned Madison resident, I am hoping you will vote against this conditional use permit.

Even though I do not live in a home directly affected by this, I am deeply concerned about how this would affect the surrounding communities and neighborhoods, and what precedents it would set for the rest of the city. Nearby residents have already had to contend with noise from increased games being played on the field. Allowing Edgewood to install lights will extend that disruption into the evening, and invite even larger crowds to nighttime events. This is a direct negative impact to those who live in the area. Noise and light pollution in the will increase substantially, as will traffic. Madison citizens, not just on Woodrow, Monroe, and Terry streets, but in most of the surrounding neighborhoods as well, will have their peaceful nights disrupted by the events these lights enable, and it is unacceptable.

I understand the perceived value of having a "home field", but this is not a necessity. Many high schools across the country lack on-site, lighted athletic fields and play their major sporting events elsewhere, even right here in Madison. Madison East and West High Schools are useful comparisons to Edgewood High School, as all three campuses are in an urban environment within close proximity to homes. Both East and West High School have fields marked for daytime outdoor recreation, similar to Edgewood's current athletic field. Neither East nor West has bleachers for spectator seating, an amplified sound system, or lights for nighttime use. The games that are played on these fields are done so during daylight hours and are generally games that do not draw large crowds. Both high schools play their night games and other highly attended sporting events at off site facilities.

Why is Edgewood any different? Other schools, with homes and neighborhoods nearby, do not have these lighted facilities. Having a practice or daytime playing field is one thing, but a full-fledged stadium, even a small one, is entirely different. If other schools in a similar situation can operate without one, so can Edgewood. Why should they expect and be rewarded with special treatment?

Such a large-scale and disruptive lighting installation has not been approved so close to existing residences in recent city history, and the city should not start now. People have a reasonable expectation for quiet nights in their homes. Every part of this proposal violates that.

I strongly encourage you to vote no on this conditional use permit, and deny the application entirely.

Thank you for your consideration.

Caitlin Zant  
641 West Main St.  
Madison, WI

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Agenda Item 6001: Edgewood High School conditional use application  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 1:59:47 PM

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**From:** Leopold, Madelyn <madelyn.leopold@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 1:21 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Cc:** Evers, Tag <district13@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 6001: Edgewood High School conditional use application

Dear Commissioners:

I am a neighbor of Edgewood High School.

The limitations proposed by City staff in its Staff Comments (pp. 6-7) and staff's Conclusion represent a reasonable balancing interests in this contentious matter.

I request, however, that there should be no evening lights allowed on any Sunday during the school year. Sunday is a school night. There are many children living in the neighborhood who will be in bed before 10 and trying to sleep.

A flat prohibition on Sunday lights constitutes a reasonable and easily enforceable solution to the concerns of the many parents in the neighborhood.

Such a prohibition on Sunday night events should also be consistent with Edgewood's educational mission.

Thank you for your efforts in this matter.

Madelyn Leopold  
2233 West Lawn Ave.  
Madison, WI 53711

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: agenda item 60001  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 1:59:30 PM

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

From: Joseph P Cassinelli <jcassinelli4@gmail.com>  
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 1:25 PM  
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: agenda item 60001

I. In regards to lighting:

A) The LED lights have a negligible spill-over or "bleeding"

to the neighborhood windows as these are at a angular distance of at least 60 degrees from the direction of the light beams.

B) Whatever spillover there could be, can be reduced by putting visors around the light sources. Visors are used on top of all of the city lights in Tucson AZ to keep the sky dark as seen from Kitt Peak National observatory, and they are effective.

C) I am sure I get more light on my house from the street lamp located across the street from my house than will the neighbors across from the sports field lights.

D) How many games are played in the evenings at Edgewood? I would think that there would be not more than 6 .. home football games. and a few of those occur early in the fall, during daylight hours.

II. In regards to speaker sounds:

A) We in the Vilas neighborhood only

hear an occasional "FIRST AND TEN WISCONSIN". The announcement is very short in duration. and the volume certainly does not affect our ability to do yard and gardening work and to have conversations with others.

B) I am sure that the sound of a motorcycle on Monroe street is both louder and more persistent than the sports field announcements

C) The sounds emitted from the speakers can be reduced significantly by thee being say a dozen small speakers distributed around the audience, in place of just a few large speakers. This is what is done in large cathedrals as it allows all to hear the preachers sermons with no echoing.

Joseph Cassinelli, of Alder District 13, 1520 Chandler St. 53711.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: regarding May 11 Plan commission meeting; item #60001  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 1:58:57 PM

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**From:** Andrew Held <jaheld@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 1:52 PM  
**To:** Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** regarding May 11 Plan commission meeting; item #60001

Regarding the Edgewood proposal for lights at the stadium:

**I support the changes Edgewood wants to make.**

I live about 3 blocks away from the Edgewood High school. My high school aged children go to West HS (so I have no vested interest in Edgewood). I do not think the noises of high school sports are bad noises. I believe the opponents of the plan are overestimating the crowds and the noise. Edgewood enrollment is far smaller than the public high schools. "Crowds" will not be what you see at West HS events.

I understand that the immediate neighbors have the most at stake in this decision. But others who live far enough away that will see no effects from this change are also being more vocal than necessary. It leads me to wonder if they are just taking issue with the school being private and religious.

If Edgewood sports have to be played elsewhere, then won't there be other neighborhoods affected by lights and noise? And is that OK with the opponents - as long as their property is not affected? It seems like a high school with space to allow a field and stadium can and should be able to have one. I highly doubt that will affect property values in this particular neighborhood as some have indicated.

Have you heard comments from businesses on Monroe Street? I would guess anything that brings people to the area would increase business. This neighborhood is vocal about proposed projects, but in most cases the completed projects bring more business to local stores. Trader Joe's is a great example of that.

Thank you for hearing my comments,

Jane Held  
2100 block Keyes Avenue

**From:** [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)  
**To:** [Cleveland, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Edgewood Stadium Lights  
**Date:** Friday, May 08, 2020 1:58:44 PM

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

From: Maria Barlow <mfbarrow54@gmail.com>  
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 1:58 PM  
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>  
Subject: Edgewood Stadium Lights

Dear Plan Commission,

I'm writing in opposition to Edgewood's proposal to install 80 foot lights at their athletic fields. I believe that these lights will be disruptive to the immediate neighborhood and increase traffic on the already busy Monroe St which will be disruptive to surrounding neighborhoods. Ultimately, I'm strongly opposed to Edgewood's desire to increase usage of their athletic fields (games into the evenings). There is no benefit to the near west side by "upgrading" the stadium, it only benefits the students/families of this private highschool/college. The near by public high school doesn't have access to an adjacent stadium and must travel to Memorial High School or other facilities for competitions and practices.

Thank you,  
Maria Barlow