

From: [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Subject: FW: Vote NO on lights at Edgewood High School
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 6:50:37 AM

From: john bayley <redgreenjohn666@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 6:03 PM
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. Edgewood is already permitted to play 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.

Thank you,

John Bayley
717 Chapman St.

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Tonight's (5/11) Planning Meeting
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 5:21:19 PM

From: Evers, Tag
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 5:20 PM
To: Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Fw: Tonight's (5/11) Planning Meeting

See below.

Tag Evers

DISTRICT 13 ALDER
CITY OF MADISON
(608) 424-2580
district13@cityofmadison.com

Subscribe to my blog at www.cityofmadison.com/council/district13/blog

From: Kay Cashman Cahill <kcahill83@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:29 PM
To: Planning; Mayor; All Alders; District13@Council.Ci.Madison.Wi.Us (E-mail)
Subject: Tonight's (5/11) Planning Meeting

Dear Planners, Mayor, and Alders,

I wrote last week asking you not to approve lighting and other steps to create an inappropriate disruptive stadium in the heart of my neighborhood. As a longtime area homeowner and Edgewood neighbor, I know how the impacts of this will fall. The perceived benefit to Edgewood High School parents who wish to drive to our neighborhood to watch their children play is not worth the cost to the thousands who live here and the thousands more who enjoy the benefit of our local natural areas and parks, which would be affected forever by this lighting, noise, and traffic.

I was asked to speak at tonight's Zoom hearing, but I cannot do that. Particularly at this time of unique stressors for so many Madison residents--when we are trying to keep our children and our seniors' heads above water--it seems wrong to add to the burden by creating the need for us to schedule more Zoom meetings so something could be pushed through against the will of the community at this time. I hope you will fully consider the views of all of us who care about this area but cannot for personal or technological reasons manage to speak tonight.

Sincerely,

Kay Cahill
2119 Jefferson St
Madison WI 53711

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: Citizen/Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood Opposition to Edgewood Stadium Lights
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 6:05:03 PM

From: Evers, Tag
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 5:40 PM
To: Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Fwd: Citizen/Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood Opposition to Edgewood Stadium Lights

Please add to the file.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jason Cassidy <cassidy.jw@gmail.com>
Date: May 11, 2020 at 4:31:46 PM CDT
To: All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Citizen/Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood Opposition to Edgewood Stadium Lights

Good afternoon,

I live closeby to Edgewood at 602 Sheldon St, Madison, WI 53711, and **I am strongly opposed to their plan to install lights and enhance their field to hold nighttime games.**

The installation of lights and nighttime games will change the character of our neighborhood forever. The noise generated and the disruption will have a cascading effect of lowering the standard of living in our small neighborhood. Edgewood has been dishonest from the start on their desires, and has not demonstrated that the noise generated from these events will not adversely affect everyone around them.

NO NEW STADIUM, NO LIGHTS.

Thank you,
Jason Cassidy
602 Sheldon St, Madison, WI 53711

From: [Lainie Goldsmith](#)
To: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Edgewood lighting application
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:32:51 AM

Hello,

I would like the Plan Commission to know that my family and I are in support of the lighting application at Edgewood High School Athletic Field. We believe this is a good thing for our children, our community and our sense of spirit and enthusiasm as a city. In all fairness to the students at Edgewood, every other school in the City of Madison has access to their own athletic field with full lighting and sound options, and we would like to see the same for Edgewood. The field exists, the fixtures are in place, and the children are ready to show their pride and have fun in a respectful way that would impact the surrounding neighborhood positively. We urge you to act accordingly and pass the law or rule that allows for lighting of the Edgewood Athletic Field. Thank you.

Very best,

Lainie Goldsmith
1722 Monroe St #312
Madison, WI 53711

From: [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Subject: FW: Item 16, 2020-05-11 Plan Commission Meeting
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 6:50:53 AM

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

From: Fraser Gurd <fgurd@inxpress.net>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 5:09 PM
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Item 16, 2020-05-11 Plan Commission Meeting

Re:
Agenda item 16
Plan Commission Meeting
2020-05-11

Dear Members of the Plan Commission:

I oppose the lights proposed for the Edgewood High School athletic field.

Lights will bring greatly increased evening noise. The area will be used more often in the evening. The school may begin to use the area for non-athletic events, even for ones in which it is not a principal participant.

I am at the other end of the neighborhood, but have a great deal of experience with noise where I live and do not think it appropriate to unleash regular and excessive noise on neighbors. This proposal does not meet the standards for your approval.

Thank you,

Fraser Gurd
1526 Jefferson Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53711

From: [Michael Halton](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 7:54:16 PM

Hello,

I am writing to register my support to allow Edgewood High School to install lights and hold outdoor athletic events on their campus.

Edgewood High School has been a tremendous asset to the city of Madison, and the Vilas/Dudgeon-Monroe neighborhoods, for over 100 years. I believe that Edgewood athletic events can be held at night with minimal disruption to the surrounding neighborhood.

Please support Edgewood's plan to improve their existing outdoor athletic field to allow night events.

Thank you,

Michael Halton
4413 Vale Cir, Madison, WI

From: [Brian Hanneman](#)
To: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: WKOW's posting on lighting
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 4:14:40 AM

Wkow's posting had people overwhelmingly in favor of lights. Way to override democracy last night.

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.facebook.com_119136252779_posts_10158700176917780_-3Fd-3Dn&d=DwIFaQ&c=byefhD2ZumMFFQYPZBagUCDuBiM9Q9twmxaBM0hCgII&r=yFHU65OLh8kG5UhqB2U0e4Tteu4Mk45Aaep7N4hi-B4&m=a9Mm-dXYpnuXXC4ISDffIpbvrlobeSYq507MaNn_iQQ&s=y8Gc5gBtJoBzLhVDHD0tYOz0e8tZSWxYEQLNyPk0mQs&e=

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brian Hanneman](#)
To: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Edgewood lighting issue
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:55:34 AM

Last night was a sad night in the annals of the Madison Plan Commission. To give Tag Evers an hour to pitch against Edgewood was appalling. For him to play snippets of children playing sports and being penalized for their enthusiasm by playing how loud it can get supposedly was embarrassing. Gee Tag, is it better to play the sounds of kids going thru a neighborhood to steal cars instead, I'm sure that's more quiet if that's your standard. Have we forgot how nice and positive it was for kids to express themselves in a safe and positive manner? Tag and the neighbors corralled to pitch against it just want to kick the can down the road again with the hope Edgewood will move on from it.

It seemed the members were just looking for a loophole to vote it down. The Edgewood supporters were cutoff when they spoke. Why weren't the opponents asked on their failures to compromise. Day games is no compromise as they've had practice on that field after school for 50 years. Asking Edgewood to pay more to travel elsewhere for games is an undue hardship to pay. My dad was an auto mechanic and my mom was a nurse's aide, so I had to pay my own way thru Edgewood, so not everyone that goes there has money. So what little I can donate, has to go to buses to take kids out to Memorial for games. But we have to pay a 12% public school increase, besides our city taxes going up. Thanks for not helping our kids have a positive place to play games.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Subject: FW: No vote for File Id#60001Conditional Use of Stadium Lights
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:16:28 PM

From: Darcy Lee <darcylee1805@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:01 PM
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: No vote for File Id#60001Conditional Use of Stadium Lights

May 11, 2020

Dear Plan Commission, Common Council and Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway,

I live on the 2200 block of West Lawn Ave. The street parallels Monroe St. and I can see Edgewood High School from my back yard. During the day, I can hear whistles, music and shouting from the Edgewood Stadium when I am in my back yard and inside my house.

I oppose the new lights at the stadium. I know that the lights will cause light pollution (lights will shine in my back yard, into my house and flood the natural environment around Lake Wingra) and lights at the stadium will lead to sound pollution (fans yelling, whistles, PA system, traffic, etc.). The light and sound pollution will be harmful to my neighborhood's quiet, peaceful environment and will have detrimental effects on the wildlife in and around the neighborhood and Lake Wingra.

If a compromise must be made, I support most of the proposals submitted in the Planning Division Staff Report prepared for The Plan Commission. I especially appreciate limiting the number of non-practicing events and keeping the events limited to Edgewood-only events. I would like to highly recommend changing the time that the lights are turned off: please turn off the lights no later than 8:00pm Monday through Thursday; please turn off the lights no later than 10:00pm Friday and Saturday; and please do not allow the lights to turn on on Sundays.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Darcy Lee

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

From: MARK J LUCARELLI <mlucarel@wisc.edu>

Sent: May 11, 2020 3:25 PM

To: All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: Parks, Timothy <TParks@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Please support lighting for Edgewood's athletic field!

I support Edgewood's lights!!

Please stop dragging this out...

Mark Lucarelli

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Cc: [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: FW: EHS Vote no to the lights -
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:42:18 PM

From: Gail Martinelli <martinelligail@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:42 PM
To: Stouder, Heather <HStouder@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Fwd: EHS Vote no to the lights -

Hello, Ms. Stouder,
Would you please forward this communication to the Plan Commission, the mayor, and all alders and add to legislator?

Thank you,
Gail Martinelli

2317 West Lawn Ave

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gail Martinelli** <martinelligail@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, May 11, 2020 at 3:12 PM
Subject: EHS Vote no to the lights -
To: Gail Martinelli <martinelligail@gmail.com>

To the Members of the Planning Commission

The installation of lights at the Edgewood High School field would be a serious threat to our quality of life, and to the use and value of our property. For almost 30 years our family has lived in our home at 2317 West Lawn Avenue, directly across the street from Edgewood's new field.

Standing in our backyard we are within earshot and have full view of the Edgewood High School athletic field and its bleachers. The day games held at the field have negatively impacted the use and enjoyment of our property. The field noise can be intense and disruptive, peaking at 80-90 decibels. It's impossible to escape the screaming, hollering, stomping, noisemakers, referee whistles, scoreboard blasts, and PA announcements from the field. It's as if the field is outside our back door and in our backyard. Before the more than 70 day games played on the field since 2018, we were able to fully and freely enjoy our property – relax on the deck, dine on the screen porch, socialize with friends inside and out, host grill outs, peacefully tend our garden, and play badminton in the yard. All of that spells home – important, valued and rightful uses that have been prevented or substantially diminished by the inescapable and relentless noise from those day games.

The installation of lights would extend the disruption into the evening, and the disruption would intensify. If Edgewood succeeds in accomplishing the expansion of the field as they have planned from the start, there will be bleachers for 1000 or more spectators. A more powerful PA system would boom broadcasts into our yards, bedrooms, offices, living rooms, kitchens and family rooms. And, unlimited events would be scheduled any day of the week, well into the evening hours, preventing or disrupting peaceful sleep.

Unintended negative effects would inevitably spill over into the neighborhood and Lake Wingra. The punt lights and skyglow from light pollution would lighten the sky, and we would lose the dark evening sky that honors us with peace and quiet. The lights detrimental to human health would also be disruptive to many species, especially migratory birds, and the limitless enjoyment of Lake Wingra, the natural area and the Park and Pleasure Drive

would be greatly diminished.

Pre- and post game spillover activity would negatively impact the traffic and parking in the neighborhood. The limited street parking on our narrow streets would be taken by drivers who, like those parking on our streets for UW football games, believe it is faster in and out to park in the neighborhood and walk. With this comes nowhere to park on our streets, traffic problems, late night stadium crowd noise, loitering and litter.

Finally, we fear this expansion into the evening hours will further open the door commercialization. Unregulated intensive use by other public or private groups whose mission is neither directly related to nor complimentary to Edgewood's mission spells disaster for the viability and livability of our neighborhood.

Please refuse to allow the disruption and harm expanded use will bring to our neighborhood.

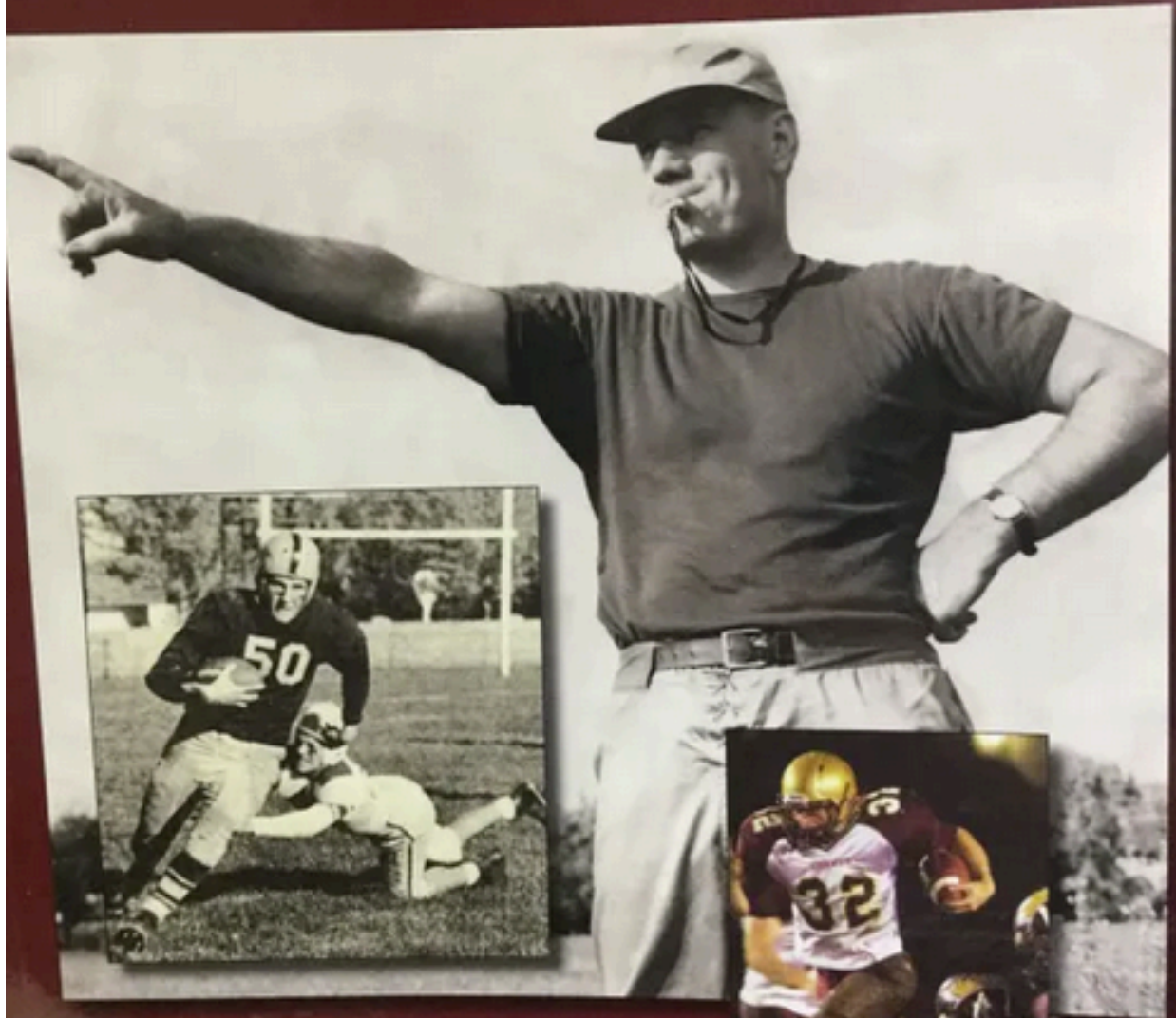
Please protect our property values and our right to the full use and enjoyment of our property
and protect our neighborhood from the commercialization of Edgewood High School's field.

Vote to protect the peace and quiet of our nights.

Thank you,
Gail Martinelli

Unbreakable Bonds

Edgewood Football, Life Lessons: 1927-2015



**Michael Mentzer
Thomas Martinelli**

From: [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Subject: FW: Vote NO on lights at Edgewood High School
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 4:19:43 PM

From: Judi K-Turkel <judi@booksthatteach.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:46 PM
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.

Edgewood is already permitted to play 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.
Thank you,**

**Judi K-Turkel and Franklynn Peterson
3006 Gregory St
Madison WI 53711
608-231-1003**

From: [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Subject: FW: Edgewood stadium
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:16:45 PM

From: Joan Vanden Brook <jvbrook@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:11 PM
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Edgewood stadium

Dear Planning committee,

I've lived 1 1/2 blocks from Edgewood for 35 years and am in support of the lights and students being able to play football on Friday nights. That being said, I understand it will impact the houses on Woodrow and across the street on Monroe. I would support limiting the night games to no more than a dozen a year. Edgewood has been a great neighbor and I feel they will work to have limited negative affects for everyone. Woodrow folks have been canvassing and getting everyone for a mile around to think that this will be a terrible thing.

They have always taken that approach because they don't want any noise or an increase in activity in their yards. I am sorry for their brain washing/propaganda tactics that has created such strife. The students that come out of Edgewood are second to none in community work for the rest of their lives! I have witnessed this with the 25 to 70 year old alum who continue to be active in many, many areas for the common good! I hope our city can see the divisive nature of a few that created "No New stadium" and allow Edgewood to move forward with their stadium plans.

Sincerely, Joan VandenBrook

From: [Ethington, Ruth](#) on behalf of [Planning](#)
To: [Cleveland, Julie](#)
Subject: FW: opposed to Edgewood Stadium expansion
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 4:19:01 PM

From: Julie Whitaker <whitaker.julie@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:25 PM
To: Planning <planning@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: opposed to Edgewood Stadium expansion

Dear Planning Commission Members,

I am writing as a very concerned neighbor who lives near Edgewood High School. While we do not live directly across from the school, and thus will not be as dramatically affected as some households, we would still be negatively impacted by excessive noise, light and traffic from the proposed expansion and unlimited use of the Edgewood stadium. Perhaps because Edgewood High School families do not have to contend with this major disruption in their own neighborhoods, they seem intent on pushing the stadium aggressively on the Dudgeon Monroe neighbors. The proposal to limit all restrictions on the use of the field is a slap in the face to the neighbors, who have repeatedly and vehemently voiced their opposition. Edgewood High School is damaging many years of good will and trust built with neighborhoods because of shortsightedness.

I am certain that others will speak to the problems of amplified sound and bright lights in a densely populated neighborhood with few barriers. Of course, I am extremely concerned about this.

I would like to focus instead on the student population and its heavy dependence on automobiles for travel to and from school, which will become a more serious problem if the scope and frequency of games were to increase. I work at Edgewood College and walk to work every week day. Thus, I have witnessed this problem of traffic congestion and a clear disregard for pedestrian safety for many years. As a pedestrian I have learned to be extremely defensive as I cross Monroe Street to go to work. As someone who has walked and biked frequently in Madison for 27 years, I can tell you that the side walk near the parking lot off Monroe Street into the high school and the intersection of Monroe Street and Edgewood Circle are especially dangerous places for pedestrians. While not all cars entering the drive are high school students or their families, it is the cars going into the high school's parking lot that have whipped around me the fastest.

I believe that this disregard comes from students and their families seeing the neighborhood, not as a place where people live, but as something to drive through and around. The Edgewood High School families have little investment in the neighborhood in which the school resides. The majority of students live far outside the neighborhood, or at least do not live within convenient walking or biking distance to

the school. Increasing the number of games and events and extending them into the evening would make this problem of traffic congestion and pedestrian disregard far worse.

I imagine that Edgewood High School is trying to recoup its sunk costs in its significant investment in an expensive, deluxe playing field. I am certain that they hope such a stadium would attract a more steady population of students. I am sure that their plan to rent out the space would be ideal for their future economic prosperity. However, if the unlimited expansion of use of the field were to happen, it would do serious damage to the quality of life for those of us who live near the school and have nothing at all to gain from it.

As I'm sure others have pointed out, Edgewood High School has not acted in good faith. They began the proposal process by giving neighbors partial and inaccurate information about the impact of the proposed stadium. They followed that by playing games illegally (with impunity), then by claiming religious discrimination. For a school that serves disproportionately white and economically privileged students, claims of discrimination are especially shameful. Now they are attempting to push through a "wild west" version of their original plan, allowing for unlimited use of the field. They are bull dozing this proposal through, not because they have an urgent need to use the field, but in order to take advantage of the social disruption caused by the pandemic.

Thank you taking the time to read this and for your consideration. I hope that you will seriously consider the deep concerns of the neighborhood in your deliberations.

Best regards,

Julie Whitaker, Fox Avenue

Memo

To: Ledell Zellers
CC: Heather Stouder
Subject: Edgewood athletic field
Date: May 18, 2020

Hi Ledell,

Given the lateness of the hour when the Edgewood discussion took place last week, and the resulting lack of clarity on my part, I wanted to provide this memo on my rationale for opposing the conditional use. This may be helpful if Edgewood appeals the Plan Commission decision, so I ask that it be attached to the Legistar item for the record.

I believe the proposal could meet the conditional use standards with regards to the visual effect of lights. While neighbors would be able to see the lit field, I do not think that situation would substantially impede the use and enjoyment of homes in the area. It seems unlikely the lights would interfere with sleep, for example, any more than long summer daylight does. We all have window shades.

Shades, however, don't stop sound, and even though the proposal is about lighting, it would also add noise in during evening activities. This is similar to what the Plan Commission encounters with outdoor eating areas. We don't really care if people are eating inside or outside; we care about the noise they might make outside and how it might disturb other people in the area. Noise at Edgewood's unlit athletic field today naturally diminishes when it gets dark, making games and practices impractical. The lights would substantially change that. It appears the additional noise would very likely be detrimental to the uses and enjoyment of surrounding properties. The Edgewood proposal did not adequately address the level of noise nor suggest any strategies to mitigate it.

Edgewood may have been able to work out the noise issues through some kind of sound mitigation and/or greater limitation on hours of operation than what we saw at our meeting. But from what we heard in testimony, it has withdrawn from actively engaging the neighbors and did not offer its own solution during our session.

Finally, some of the opposition arguments to the Edgewood proposal deserve pushback. A few neighbors suggested that the Plan Commission should deny the CUP because students come to Edgewood from outside of the neighborhood. Applying this insular argument would be an abuse of the standards, which are intended to protect everyone. My judgment on the matter has nothing to do with where the students live, but only the unaddressed issue of additional noise.

Thank you,

Eric Sundquist
Plan Commission member