

From: [eric.pueschel](#)
To: [PLLCApplications](#)
Cc: [Rummel, Marsha](#)
Subject: Development at 817 Williamson St.
Date: Monday, August 17, 2020 2:07:16 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Landmarks Commission Members,

As a long time resident of the Willy Street neighborhood, I am writing to you in support of Agenda Item #2, 817 Williamson St.

While this project is by no means perfect - I would prefer that new construction eschew parking entirely - it is a welcome improvement on an unsightly parking lot and an architecturally uninspired commercial building that currently occupy the space. Given how grim the current situation is, I don't think that close analysis is really needed, but I will say that the current street facade has a pronounced void at this address, and this building is appropriately sized to fill it. I also think that the use of brick cladding and cast stone does a nice job of echoing the Geiger-Williamson Blacksmith Shop a few doors down, without feeling overly uniform.

On a more philosophical note - one of the great Madison success stories of the last twenty years has been the revitalization of the Willy Street corridor. There is a thriving ecosystem of small businesses - the sort of businesses that are rooted in our community - and it makes a great deal of urban planning sense to build additional residential units intermixed with them. There are a lot of fantastic things about the Willy Street neighborhood - plentiful parks, restaurants, multiple grocery stores, great bicycle infrastructure, decent access to mass transit - all of these things are within walking distance and none of them are close to overcrowded. I am delighted at the prospect of additional residents joining us in this neighborhood and becoming part of our community.

In conclusion, I urge you to approve this project. It is an opportunity to welcome another 24 households to our neighborhood, to increase density within our city without developing greenspace, and to place housing close to a community of small businesses and to the employment core of the city.

Thank you for your attention. I hope you will do the right thing.

—eric pueschel