Michelle Blaskowski
Finance Committee
2002 Zeier Rd. Proposed Men"s Shelter
Monday, March 22, 2021 11:23:48 AM

With regard to the proposed new Men's shelter on 2002 Zeier Rd., I must reiterate another's comments; "I do not believe this is the right location for a men's shelter as it needs to be close to the beacon day center. I also am committed to revitalizing the East Towne area and would like to see developers bring their projects here. Seeing that article on the Paramount development project that is considering dropping their bid is very concerning. It is these types of developments that will encourage more to develop here which will turn the greater East Towne area into a destination shopping, dining and entertainment location. New development will also bring us additional housing units and open up more opportunities for affordable housing which we need. It will also significantly increase the tax base so we can continue to fund the services that are important to our community."

Sincerely, Michelle Blaskowski

From:	Global Market, LLC
To:	Finance Committee; Baldeh, Samba; All Alders; Mayor
Subject:	About the proposed men"s shelter project on 2002 Zeier Road
Date:	Sunday, March 21, 2021 9:56:19 PM

Dear Finance Committee Members, Alders, and Mayor Rhodes-Conway,

I am writing on behalf of the property owners of 2161 Zeier Road (previous ToyRus, now the Global Market), the operators of the Asian grocery store Global Market, and the 14 food vendor operators in the Food Hall, to you to express our deep concern about, the firm opposition against, and the desperate frustration over the proposed men's shelter project on 2002 Zeier Road.

Almost all owners, operators and the 14 food vendors are from the Asian American community in the Madison area. Many of them are hardworking first generation immigrants, and may have language barriers to be able to share their thoughts, concerns, and feelings with you on this matter. Yet their voices should not be ignored or unheard. I hope this message could serve as a way to help facilitate that purpose.

In 2019, we were attracted by the city's calling to revitalize the East Towne Mall area. We hope to participate in this revitalization effort by introducing the concept of combining shopping with dining with an Asian street market experience, which has been a trend in the East and West coastal areas in the U.S. but would be groundbreaking in Madison and surrounding areas. We hope it attracts tourists and visitors from near and far, and brings new energy and blood to the East Towne Mall area. We also consider this project an effort to help creating jobs for the minority communities (East Asian, South East Asian, and Hispanic) who often suffer from language deficiency in the job market, and help resource constrained families (many being female headed) to start their first business by lowing the entry bar: instead of building a new restaurant, they can just rent the space at affordable pricing. The idea is similar to Madison's Public Market, and we actually had worked with the Public Market team to share the vision to help the community and resources we had. All in all, we believed it would be a win-win for all.

The pandemic is unexpected and hits everybody and all economic sectors, especially the food service sector. We worked hard to keep going during the unprecedented hardship. The grocery store and the vendors have walked together, hand-in-hand, trying to keep afloat and our hope is the rebouncing demand for food, leisure shoppers, and tourism post-pandemic. Everyone has put in their life savings into their businesses to keep it alive. Among them, there are a young lady taking loans from her immigrant parents from Cambodia (with their life savings) to keep her first business moving forward; sisters-in-laws of two Hmong families putting their resources together; husband and wife from Singapore to count on past savings; and Chinese ladies working extended hours to "save" on operating cost.

The exacerbating economy had already led to increased safety issues for the market and food hall. We have witnessed an increasing incidence of shoplifting, robbery, and vehicle glass breaking-in. The market had to spend extra money (out of the already tight budget) to install additional safety doors, gated entrance, and surveillance camera. The female workers and vendors had to take extra cautious steps when leaving for the day late in the evening. We all

had hoped that things would get better when the economy reopens and people are able to return to work.

However, the hope for a bright future has got a big slam when we heard about the proposed shelter project across the street. HOPELESS. That is the one and only word our vendors, workers, and operators could utter at this moment. This is a particular hard moment for the Asian American community. Given the rising Asian hatred behavior in the past and current days, we felt extremely vulnerable and helpless. We understand and know the pain of being neglected. Those to be helped by the shelter project are in pain and need help. But the shelter should not belong to the revitalizing commercial area, which was designed and meant for casual shopping, dining, walking and relaxing activities. The revitalized area is meant to generate more employment for many low income families; higher tax revenues to help the city provide better and more public services; and more diversified business and life communities to attract more growth.

I attended the neighborhood hearing meeting on March 12. I spoke there and said that the project was killing the hen that could lay eggs for everyone. I heard the speaker representing a developer said that they will cancel their mega plan in the area. If we knew what would happen today back in 2019, we would do the same thing as they do. Yet, we are stuck here, helpless, hopeless, and vulnerable...

Thank you for listening to us.

Best,

Guanming Shi (representing Global Market Property, LLC, Global Market, LLC, and 14 vendors in the Food Hall in Global Market)

Global Market, LLC Global Market & Food Hall 2161 Zeier Road Madison, WI 53704

From:	Amber L
То:	All Alders; Finance Committee
Subject:	Agenda #13 - Support!
Date:	Monday, March 22, 2021 3:21:39 PM

Hello all,

I am requesting that you vote in support of agenda item 13 tonight in finance committee to transfer parking enforcement to the parking division.

Thank you!

Amber Lefers 620 Pine St Madison WI 53715 Alder District 13

Garfield Cunningham
Finance Committee
Cunningham, Garfield
Agenda Item #64333
Sunday, March 21, 2021 9:05:14 PM
PEO, Safety Concerns.docx

Members of the Finance committee. My name is Garfield Cunningham. I am a Parking Enforcement Officer. I have been working for the city of Madison for seventeen years.

I am grateful, thankful and blessed to be hired by the city of Madison via the Madison Police Department to perform this public service.

During my seventeen years of service I have worked in several areas of parking Enforcement. But, my duties have been spent doing meter enforcement.

I have enjoyed and benefited from this assignment and I am sure the city and citizens of Madison have benefited too.

Like all my fellow Parking Enforcement Officers, I am taking this opportunity to state why I oppose the pending proposal to move the Parking Enforcement Operations from under the umbrella of the Madison Police Department and place them under that of Parking Utilities.

In no way am I prepared to adequately articulate the cost and impact of our safety under the Madison Police Department versus the Madison Parking Utility.

My major focus and concern are on and about our safety and security which have been adequately addressed, secured and maintained under the leadership of the Madison Police Department. The enforcement of traffic laws and parking enforcement ordinances are always a crucial aspect of this business. I now this sentiment is shared by my fellow hardworking and concerned Parking Enforcement Officer coworkers.

A recent study of workplace violence has shown that over two million people are affected by workplace violence each year in the workplace. Some of these people are Parking Enforcement Officers. That includes the city of Madison Parking Enforcement Officers. And yes that includes me.

Our safety and security have been frequently challenged and jeopardized.

While out on daily, evening, and night patrol my coworkers and I are regularly subjected to verbal abuse and violent outbursts when writing parking tickets and in many cases without writing parking tickets. Our mere presence have often times triggered and elicited these kind of responses from irate and disagreeable vehicle owners and drivers.

In more severe cases some us has been physically attacked, assaulted and side-swiped by angry, irate and disgruntled vehicle owners and drivers who get caught and have been ticketed for parking ordinance violations and breaking the rules.

In my seventeen years of working as a Parking Enforcement Officer I have had many contacts with disgruntled drivers, vehicle owners and people. I do recall having run-ins or contact with thrown objects from moving vehicles. Disgruntled drivers, vehicle owners and people have physically blocked my path in the effort to prevent me from writing a ticket. They have spit at me, threatened to harm me, hurled racial epithets and slurs at me, tell me to f\*@# off, to go f\*@# myself, f\*@# parking enforcement, entered their cars and revved the car's engine and drive towards me at a high rate of speed in the attempt to run me over. Mentally challenged and deranged people have confronted me and blocked my path. Believe me these are only a few of the safety and security hazards I have experienced. I could

mention more but for the sake of time. I believe this should give you a pretty good idea of the safety and security threats the city of Madison Parking Enforcement Officers are up against daily.

My coworkers and I work with the faith and confidence that our uniforms and equipment give us quick access to and response from our fine Madison Police Officers when our safety and security are at risk or challenged. That is not to say that this would not happen under the umbrella and operations of Madison Parking Utility.

It is to say that under the current umbrella and operations of the Madison Police Department Parking Enforcement Officers have a well-established function and relationship that must not be severed.

The last thing I want to say is that placing Parking Enforcement under the umbrella and operations of Parking Utility would mean the loss of assured and secured access to bathroom facilities and computer work station in six Madison Police Districts for Parking Enforcement Officers especially for those who work the night shift.

Remember our safety is always jeopardized. These safety issues have not been adequately and sufficiently addressed and guaranteed.

For these reasons I respectfully ask that the City of Madison Parking Enforcement Officers and its operations continue to function under the umbrella and operations of the city of Madison Police Department.

From:	Hanson, Robert
То:	Finance Committee
Subject:	Agenda Item# 64333 / Transfer Parking Enforcement Duties from MPD to Parking Division
Date:	Monday, March 22, 2021 11:40:37 AM

Hello Committee Members, (A brief introduction to me) My name is Robert Hanson, I have been employed by the City of Madison since : 1995, (1990s employed by Parking Utility), 21 years since, at the Madison Police Dept. (Parking Enforcement Officer). (Brief Job Summary) The intent and purpose of job, as it has evolved; serve the public (law enforcement duties related to parking), assist police patrol & police management. We operate similar to MPD Patrol. We piggyback on MPD patrol costs and services, I.T. services, Training and Dispatch Services. We have very wide scope, complex jobs, working as a de-centralized units out of MPD district stations, to better serve the public/community. We work very closely with MPD patrol/ MPD neighborhood offices, to solve community problems ie. Homeless encampments, junk/abandoned vehicles, stolen vehicles, disabled fraud. We perform public safety duties, such as : towing am, pm commuter routes. (under normal circumstances-pre COVID19) we seize more property on behalf of the City of Madison than any other city entity = impounding scofflaws (vehicles with outstanding citations greater than \$250.00 with no court pending, or payment plan set up). (NOTE: impounding vehicles is an inherently dangerous task!) Parking Utility is a non-law enforcement agency. P.U. has no similar jobs to mine (P.E.O.) The proposal (agenda item # 64333) wants to change a near perfectly running system. The proposed move, does nothing to improve City Services and offers NO Benefits to the public! The proposal HURTS: 1) The Public = reduced services 2) the Parking Utility = puts division into financial turmoil, requires P.U. to start a parking enforcement unit from scratch 3) MPD = eliminates our great networking system with patrol & neighborhood officers. The proposal does not work logistically, operationally, or financially. The proposal which may cost a "kings ransom" will spend a lot of money and benefit No One! In the Parking Enforcement Transfer of Operations Report, no cost or increased service benefits have been detailed. For all the reasons, listed above; please vote against the proposal! Best regards, PEO Robert Hanson.

From:	Joe Duperre
To:	Finance Committee
Subject:	Finance Committee Meeting - March 22, 2021 - Agenda item #15 - Proposed site for Men"s Homeless Shelter
Date:	Monday, March 22, 2021 2:14:00 PM
Attachments:	image002.png



March 22, 2021

### **Finance Committee Meeting**

Via email: financecommittee@cityofmadison.com

Re: East Towne Mall, surrounding campus and proposed men's homeless shelter

Dear Committee Members:

We felt it important to reiterate our concerns regarding the proposed men's homeless shelter adjacent to East Towne Mall. We recognize that a lack of affordable housing is a nationwide issue and a shelter is a community necessity, but the proposed location will be detrimental to the future development opportunities at East Towne Mall.

The proposed Paramount development on the JCPenney parcel is critical to the ongoing viability of the market. As was reported this weekend, if the relocation of the shelter to this proposed location is allowed to move forward, it will result in the loss of this multi-million-dollar project that could otherwise serve as a catalyst for future development. East Towne has had several setbacks in recent years with vacant anchor stores and this proposal will not assist our efforts to redevelop East Towne and attract new and different uses. We continue to have serious concerns about what the proposed location would do to the long-term value of and redevelopment prospects for East Towne Mall and the surrounding area.

East Towne Mall generates approximately \$1.4 million in property taxes annually for the city of Madison, serves as a large employment base, and a center of commerce. The retail industry is already under immense pressure, the effects of which can be seen at East Towne Mall and malls across the country. The construction of this shelter within 100 yards of East Towne Mall will drive current businesses away from the property and deter new businesses from locating there.

We'd respectfully ask that you reconsider the proposed location of the shelter in order to preserve the long-term viability of the East Towne Mall area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Joe Duperre, Gene East Towne Mall

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Hello — I'm the CEO of Flix Brewhouse, writing about our currently closed Flix Brewhouse dine-in cinema brewpub located at East Towne Mall. We are beyond merely concerned about the proposed men's shelter on Zeier Rd. across from the mall, but its impact as magnified by the loss of a Paramount project will likely preclude our ability to positively contribute to the Madison economy on a sustaining basis.

It's no secret East Towne has struggled for years, and this project could be a real nail in its coffin. We desperately need the quality residential proposed for the Penney's site. In addition, we are not just a movie theater but a 60-seat bar and brewery — right at the front door — a counter-productive "attractive nuisance" for many men suffering from substance abuse. A facility where the goal is ostensibly to help men find a pathway to a better life seems like an incompatible use with a large bar less than five minutes walk. Of particular concern is that the shelter is primarily oriented towards overnight says as opposed to a full-service 24/7/365 social services facility with well-funded City daytime programs. The intent to just release the overnight occupants to the East Towne area is unlikely to accomplish the City's social goals, but highly likely to cause a material adverse economic input for the area.

It will certainly cause us to rethink our long-term plans at East Towne. Thank you for your consideration.

Allan L. Reagan, CEO FLIX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP Tel: 512.643.4666 Email: <u>allan.reagan@flixbrewhouse.com</u>

Flix Brewhouse - America's Cinema Brewery

From:	Aaron Konkol
То:	All Alders; Finance Committee
Subject:	In favor of Item 13
Date:	Monday, March 22, 2021 3:29:55 PM

Alders,

Please finalize shifting Parking Enforcement out of MPD and into City Parking Division.

https://madison.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4807538&GUID=D5C03484-F8E4-4C82-B018-92B65D652EEA

Tonight please complete the transition of taking Parking Enforcement out of MPD and placing it under the purview of the city Parking Division. The funding has already been shifted. Let's move on.

Thank you for your service,

Aaron Konkol Winnebago St.

TO: City of Madison Finance Committee

RE: Men's Homeless Shelter at East Towne Mall

Position: Please vote AGAINST the proposed shelter.

Why? Because building a Walmart sized warehouse homeless shelter is inhumane.

Warehousing men in a giant facility leads to more bad behavior. Instead, spend your \$10 Million on purchasing 20 'flats' or 4 unit apartment buildings around town and creating halfway house type homeless facilities in which the men are housed in a real home, limited to ten each, with an overnight manager, and where the men are required to work - cleaning, cooking, shopping for food, planning meals, lawn care, snow removal and gardening where they can grow their own food, together, working as a team, where peer pressure will improve behavior.

Placing a homeless shelter adjacent East Town Mall is also a horrible idea. The shelters kick the men out during the day, and they'll go hang out inside the mall, driving away business. (We don't let our mom go there anymore due to one too many times being confronted by homeless men.) The mall has already filed bankruptcy (not coincidentally right after receiving a significant increase in their assessment).

The shelter will also drive away redevelopment of the properties around the mall. There are 3 vacant big box stores that need redevelopment. The developer looking at the JC Penney building has already gone on record saying they won't development the property if the shelter goes in. Likewise, I have been in active discussions with CBRE that represents the Boston Store about acquiring that property for redevelopment. However, if the mall goes in, I too will not proceed further with negotiations or our plans for redevelopment if the shelter is approved.

While the city pursues various self-destructive actions like this, Prairie Lakes in Sun Prairie has now surpassed East Towne Mall in total retail store square footage. The point, businesses and residents have an alternative competitor to choose from. Menard's left, Marcus Theaters left, Lexus left, and a hundred other stores have chosen Sun Prairie over Madison. Madison is set to lose a significant tax base as a result if the city doesn't start focusing on approving redevelopment plans and avoiding adding the shelter.

It's incredibly ironic; the city rushes this shelter forward, meanwhile our plans for new missing middle housing is continuously delayed, stalled and roadblock by lower level planning staff; a development that will add tax base to the city and school district when it's really needed. You see the point - more housing in District 17 is roadblocked while a

homeless shelter moves forward. If we had more housing, maybe we'd have less homelessness.

As background, I have spent the last 31 years since 1990 trying to improve District 17 and keep it from going down the toilet. It is the front door to the city after all. I was responsible for the collector/distributor interchange design on I-90, for the bridge over the interstate at this location, for getting DOT to install better lighting and landscaping in the medians of East Washington Avenue, for development and redevelopment of 5 retail centers including Target, for development of High Crossing, for locating Demco on Hayes Road, for building hundreds of apartments and dozens of office buildings in District 17. And yes, we have more than our fair share of low income housing, nothing wrong with that, but this shelter is going too far. It's the death blow to District 17 spiraling down out of control.

Thank you.

# Terrence R. Wall, President

# T. Wall Enterprises Mgt, LLC

# Terrence@twallenterprises.com 608.345.0701



"The society that puts equality before freedom will get little of either. The society that puts freedom before equality will get a great measure of both." - Economist Milton Friedman

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From:	<u>brickljan</u>
То:	Finance Committee
Subject:	Men"s 200 + Homeless Shelter at East Towne
Date:	Monday, March 22, 2021 12:35:39 PM

How is it East Towne area already has Porchlight homeless shelter and many homeless in the area hotels around East Towne not to mention the gang activity that is also in the area. I have heard East Towne is a hangout for drug dealers and users were they make a number of their "connections"

I have not seen any new development that adds jobs or revenue to this area appears to be the Madison Planners the dumping area for the negative city issues. Also, this men"s homeless shelter is suppose to be the largest in the Midwest as opposed to other cities that have smaller facilities throughout their cities. Build it and they shall come...How is it there is a Plan right now to redevelop West Towne and bring in more revenue producing jobs yet the East side is getting pounded with negative conquenences?

Would also like to add this is not fair to the homeless Community, they will be thrown into a building all together causing more violence and less of a atmosphere of adjustment to what what real community life should be for them! Also, please note there is an actual investor in the East Towne area that is looking to add a significant amt of new development to the back of East Towne Area and he said He will NOT move forward if this homeless men's shelter is approved for East Towne area. IT should stay where it is at on corner of 1st and Johnson St and Market should be moved to East Towne, it will fit in w the Market that just moved into the strip mall just outside of East Towne mall. The name of the investor is James Settle, please don't mess this up

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

To whom it may concern,

I would like to register my vote against the proposal to buy land for a men's shelter near the East Madison retail area which has been struggling to keep businesses in the area. There are already too many men on all the street corners begging for money in the area and frightening away people who would support the business in this area. I really want to support the east side mall and businesses but I am very concerned about my personal safety and my property values. During this COVID-19 pandemic the only exercise I get is to walk in the area around my residence and I don't feel safe doing that because of the people who loiter on the streets now.

The mall will likely be an indoor area where men will congregate when the weather is bad to the detriment of businesses located in the mall. This location also separates the men from women and children who are not housed nearby. The men will have to take a bus to get to the downtown area where more social services are and this will also make me feel unsafe taking a bus downtown. I strongly feel that this is an extremely bad idea and I feel that this is not a location that would well serve the city of Madison residents who live and shop in this area. I sincerely request that you reconsider this proposal and find a location closer to the downtown where the women and children are to keep families together.

Respectfully,

Erin Bowles

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From:	<u>Kristi</u>
To:	Finance Committee
Subject:	Oppose men's shelter Zeier road
Date:	Sunday, March 21, 2021 7:27:03 PM

I have lived in this area for 30 years. The last 5 years we have already seen an increase of racing on east Washington ave. People stealing mail and packages Cars stolen Break in's Guns going off East towne I won't shop there anymore due to problems and issues with not feeling safe Gang issues.

Now you want to bring in a shelter to an area that has already gone down hill.

I would ask you to start reviving this area instead of making it worse

Kristi Chlebowski

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Rhonda Rideout
То:	Finance Committee
Subject:	Oppose Move of Parking Enforcement from the Police Department to Parking Utility
Date:	Monday, March 22, 2021 11:33:11 AM

Dear Finance Committee,

My name is Rhonda Rideout and I strongly oppose the move of Parking Enforcement from the Police Department to Parking Utility.

I am a 24 year Civilian Employee of the Police Department in the Court Services section, where part of our job entails the customer service aspect of the very parking tickets issued by Parking Enforcement. Additionally, I am a City resident who owns my own home which makes me a taxpayer and someone who pays attention to how the City spends its money. I really appreciate the time that the Finance Committee takes in assessing how best to spend our money.

I can see no logical reason for this move and feel that all this will do is cause undue stress to workers who have not chosen to have this happen to them along with the financial waste that will be created with the movement. This is not a broken system, quite the opposite and all it really serves is to show a taking away of money from the police. Taxpayers will see this for what it is, a line moved from one Department to another and Parking Utility will suffer as they cannot afford to support the infrastructure this move will cause them to have to take on.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to the City of Madison

Rhonda Rideout Records Service Clerk City of Madison Police Department Court Services Section

Hello,

I'm writing to ask that you follow through with removing parking enforcement from MPD and placing it under the city parking division.

Thank you, Alicia Treviño-Murphy

--Ali Treviño-Murphy (608) 217-0451

"If you don't stand for something you will fall for anything." -Malcolm X

From:	Charles Litweiler
To:	Finance; Finance Committee
Subject:	Purchase of Savers for Homeless Shelter
Date:	Sunday, March 21, 2021 7:59:59 PM

The proposed apartment development should delay any purchase and development of the SAvers site now. If the development will generate the tax money estimated that money could be used to pay for a HOmeless Shelter/Services. At the very least dealay starting the Public Market at First Street so that site can continue to be used as is until this proposal has been explored thoroughly.

Chuck Litweiler District 17

From:	Dan ""Spiffy"" Neuman
То:	Finance Committee
Subject:	Tonight"s Meeting
Date:	Monday, March 22, 2021 2:39:28 PM

I'm writing to comment on the homeless shelter. I live in the area, used to work a block from the proposed site, used to visit the Savers store, and still shop in this area frequently.

The Savers building has been vacant for too long and is an eyesore. I was overjoyed to hear this was a proposed site for a homeless shelter as it is a great use for the building. Madison has long needed more resources for the homeless and this is a great start. Some residents expressed concerns that there is no shelter on the West side, I think after this project we should look for a similar opportunity on that side of town as well.

At the last meeting, several owners and employees of area businesses expressed their opposition to the shelter due to preconceived notions about the homeless. I and many others are making a point not to support businesses that oppose the shelter.

Dan "Spiffy" Neuman - organ, guitar, and ceiling fans 608.576.5227 608.616.0489 <u>dspiffy@gmail.com</u> <u>http://www.dspiffy.com</u>