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Dear alders,

While the ALRC voted to grant a liquor license to Helbach's on D'Onofrio, I want to bring up concerns with it.

1. Ownership with a disastrous history

Last year, a cafe in Middleton under the same name/ownership was cited for public health violations, stemming mainly from the establishment's flagrant sabotage of our county's attempt to contain deadly disease.

That should tell you a lot about what the owner of this establishment thinks of the health and safety of their customers, their staff, or their broader community. It shows a complete disregard of local regulatory authority.

Given that atrocious track record, how can we trust this person to operate a liquor license responsibly?

How can we trust them to comply with Madison ordinances around selling alcohol?

2. Saturated location

I also want to point out that the Council also recently considered HyVee's application to sell alcohol in the very same block as this cafe. During that process, Alder Skidmore and a number of residents of the area claimed that sales of alcohol in the area were saturated. They were particularly worried about making smaller-quantity, readily-consumable drinks available.

Without making any judgement upon the validity of those concerns, I merely want to point out that the same concerns should apply to consideration of this license.

3. Lack of birth control

This Council also recently denied a liquor license to the Kwik Trip property on Winnebago, in part because they would not agree to selling condoms. Perhaps that's a fair standard to apply here as well:

Helbach's could be trusted with a liquor license if they show their renewed commitment to public health by selling safer-sex products. I encourage the alders to add this as a condition of their license.

Thank you,

Nick Davies 3717 Richard St