

**From:** [Mary Pustejovsky](#)  
**To:** [Zellers, Benjamin](#)  
**Subject:** Odana Area Plan feedback  
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Hello

I was not able to attend the last meeting in person but overall I think the plan is looking good. I wanted to request that further consideration be given to smaller, more dispersed parks. I used to live in a neighborhood of townhomes in Austin which had 5 "pocket parks". These were all less than 1 acre, and provided community space within walking distance of homes. It meant that no one was further than 1 block from a park. The Trust for Public Land's park score says that Madison is extremely high, and that is great! Ensuring that residents have access to quality parks within a 10 minute walk (or even 5 minutes) makes for greatly increased quality of life. While larger parks are wonderful, small parks can be excellent for the community as well. As sites come up for redevelopment, small parks can be a great addition to the public realm.

I also gave this piece of info at one of the feedback sessions, and it doesn't seem like anything has changed. I still do not understand the need for height limits whatsoever at properties along the Beltline. It is a highway. Why do we care how tall the buildings are? Even with unlimited height, I would not expect that a developer is going to build a super tall tower. Let them decide rather than putting artificial limits on it.

Finally, I support the most aggressive rezoning possible for this plan. We need to stop suburban sprawl that puts pressure on our wild lands and farms for suburban development. We need to stop the sprawl that increases vehicle miles traveled in our region. The best way is to ensure that there are lots of parcels within city limits that can be easily redeveloped by willing parties.

Thank you

Mary