

From: [Women SportsHelpSociety](#)
To: [Plan Commission Comments](#)
Subject: Planning Commission Request to Revisit Camp Randall Construction Plans due to Potential Title IX Litigation, and Negative Community Impact
Date: Thursday, December 19, 2024 4:30:45 PM

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Hello City Planning Commission,

We are reaching out to you today as concerned alumni, student-athletes and members of the Wisconsin Track and Field Community. We have been following the ongoing controversy regarding the CRSC Redevelopment Project and its threats to UW Track and Field's legacy, the potential Title IX compliance issues at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the negative impact to the broader Dane County and Wisconsin community.

We recently found former UW football coach and Athletic Director, Barry Alvarez's conversation ([on espnMadison](#) starting ~:30min) with current student athlete, Maggie Munson, very informative related to directly addressing some of the misleading communication coming from the Athletic Department. Legendary Coach, Ed Nuttycombe (26x BigTen Coach of the Year at UW) also [outlined the misleading communication](#) during the UW's 50 Years of Women's Track & Field/Cross Country Reunion on November 22, 2024 - misleading communication that likely led to the approval of this inadequate building design.

This is deeply concerning, especially for a \$285 million investment - the UW Athletics' largest ever capital investment* - inclusive of tax payer dollars. (*Links to Maggie's point of view as shared with Barry Alvarez are at bottom of the email*).

We find it very troubling that the current CRSC Redevelopment plans **fail** to uphold UW's promise to provide a "state of the art*" indoor training and competition facility that would "provide critical needs*" for the Track and Field Program, and am alarmed by the implications for the Track and Field Program's future and loss of future opportunities for the community to benefit from such a facility. This new \$285 million project - inclusive of taxpayer dollars - should better serve taxpayers and key community groups like the Boys & Girls Club, state high schools and youth programs. Public Universities like UW-Madison not only have an obligation to provide equitable resources to their men's and women's programs under Title IX, they also have a responsibility to ensure the vibrancy and prosperity of their communities. **UW-Madison Athletic Department's current plans FAIL on all of these metrics.**

As former coach Ed Nuttycombe has said, the proposed track facility in the CRSC Redevelopment plans that was supposed to help UW remain "on par with peer institutions*" but is "*hardly a track practice facility... it's a recreational running path.*" To propose these inadequate facilities while competitors in the Big Ten, like the University of Michigan, have state-of-the-art indoor practice and competition facilities for their Track and Field Program is embarrassing. Such neglect and disrespect of the successful and storied Track and Field Program will negatively impact the future of the program as it loses recruits, student athletes and coaches to competing schools.

It will also undermine UW's mission by disproportionately hurting diverse and female athletes, as the Track and Field Program has historically been one of the most diverse rosters with the most female athletes on campus. Without proper facilities, the track & field program will deteriorate to the point that it will not exist. Without 'state of the art facilities*' for the community to access - the largest numbers of opportunities for athletes—especially women, student-athletes of color and youth from underserved communities—will disappear.

In addition to the poor planning of the CRSC project, it is unacceptable for a leading athletics program like that of UW's to have potential Title IX compliance issues, over 50 years after the law was passed. UW should be providing equitable opportunities, scholarships, and treatment to its female athletes.

We write to you today to express our disappointment in UW's handling of the CRSC Redevelopment and to respectfully ask that you take immediate action to remedy the Redevelopment Project, provide UW Track and Field the respect and the state of the art facilities it deserves, and address all potential Title IX compliance issues within UW's athletic programs.

Respectfully,

Concerned Alumni, Student-Athletes & Supporters

*[Badgers Building Champions Capital Campaign Launch](#) - Bottom Quote by Director of Athletics, Chris McIntosh

**[Letter of Intent – Camp Randall Sports Center Replacement Project – DFD #22D5A](#) - page 5

Maggie Munson Speaking With Barry Alvarez, Tarek Saleh, and Derek Engler on ESPN Madison Radio/Podcast:

- [Barry Alvarez ESPN Madison Show: Potential Title IX Violation Discussion](#)
- Barry Alvarez ESPN Madison Show: [\\$285 million Plan Still Sending WI \\$ to IL](#)
- Barry Alvarez ESPN Madison Show: [UW AD Not Interested in Building New State-of-the-Art Track](#) that would fulfill the vibrancy of the community
- Barry Alvarez ESPN Madison Show: [Barry's POV to Give Teams Ability to Be Successful - Like Adequate Facilities](#)
- Barry Alvarez ESPN Madison Show: [Breakdown of Misleading Messaging about What \\$285 Million Would Provide to Teams & Community](#)
- Barry Alvarez ESPN Madison Show: [Details On What a Promised 'State-of-the-Art' Facility Would Look Like and Realization That There IS Indeed Space in Current Double Footprint of Facility Build.](#)

Additional Media Coverage For Reference:

- [Right now, we have nothing': The history behind Wisconsin track and field's indoor facility concerns.](#)
- ['Our university does not respect us back'](#) *With the demolition of the Shell, UW Madison track athletes have no place to practice indoors this winter*
- [Wisconsin track program threatened by \\$285 million football project.](#) *Students and alumni started a petition to demand a better training facility than a recreational jogging track*
- [UW Track and Field female athletes protest recent demolishing of indoor track facility Demolition of the Shell](#) *leaves athletes without indoor practice space, sparking Title IX concerns and growing petition.*
- [Badgers track boosters raise Title IX concerns over new UW facility](#)
- [Madison running community urges UW to alter plans on new \\$285M football practice facility](#) *Runners say indoor track inadequate compared to the Shell, other Big 10 schools*
- [UW student-athletes concerned new football indoor practice facility potentially violates Title IX](#)