

From: gordon bethke
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2012 10:52 AM
To: Cnare, Lauren **Cc:** Murphy, Brad
Subject: Grandview Development

My wife and I are unable to attend the meeting of the Planning Commission regarding the Grandview development, but would like to offer our input. We have been residents of District 3 for 45 years and have a strong interest in our neighborhood.

We have nervously watched as welfare housing was constructed on Vernon/Cottage Grove roads and Section 8 rentals were added to North Thompson and across from Sentry. Both have the potential to become negative factors in our area.

The closing of Gerhardts Drug Store left a major hole in the Rolling Meadows shopping center.

If a major grocery store is constructed at Grandview, the Sentry will undoubtedly close, further eroding the stability of the neighborhood, with the potential to turn the neighborhood into another troubled area.

The Piggly Wiggly in Cottage Grove is undergoing a major expansion. Will there be sufficient demand for two large grocery stores two miles apart, or would a PDQ/Kwiktrip better serve the area. It would not do the area any good for a large grocery store to go the way of Cubs when Walmart began to offer groceries across the street. Empty stores become a blight upon neighborhoods.

The vast majority of residents in Grandview/Richmond Hills have automobiles, and drive past the Sentry on a regular basis. That is not the case for many residents living around the Rolling Meadows shopping center. I am not certain how they will get to a new store a mile down the road if Sentry is forced to close.

If I lived in Grandview/Richmond Hills, I would like a grocery store in my neighborhood, but I would share the concerns already expressed by many that a large store will bring with it added traffic, noise, loading docks, parking lot lighting, and major blacktop where grass now exists. I would prefer to have a convenience type store, along with shops which further the 'small town atmosphere' of the Grandview development.

We urge you to consider this problem carefully, as whatever decision is reached, it will have a major impact on both the Grandview/Richmond Hills and Rolling Meadows neighborhoods.

Gordon and Susan Bethke 4710
Jade Lane