

From: Leah Voigt
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2012 10:09 AM
To: Waidelich, Michael; Murphy, Brad; Cover, Steven
Cc: Mayor
Subject: Opposition to large grocery store in Grandview Commons

Hello,

I am writing you today as a resident of the Heritage Heights neighborhood (4813 Martha Lane Madison) who is opposed to the redevelopment and construction of a 58,000 square-foot grocery store off of Cottage Grove Rd. Unfortunately I won't be able to make it to this evening's meeting at Messiah Lutheran Church, I have three other engagements that I am supposed to attend, but I plan to attend the planning commission meeting on 1/23/12. Still Mayor Soglin please forward my concerns to the planning commission.

My personal concerns revolve around increased traffic on Cottage Grove Rd., the probable closing of the Century Grocery Store on Cottage Grove Rd., and the increased noise this would bring to the area at night. However from a community perspective, I understand that Veridian is trying to rezone the area only to sell the land to an entity who will build a "big box" store at that location. I am angered that Veridian would try to make money on changing zoning rules despite what a community is stating. I believe that a smaller grocery store, one that fits the current zoning requirements in terms of square-feet would fill the need and retain the communities. Several small grocery stores like this (The Willy Street Co-op, Jennifer St. Market, Century Grocery Store) are thriving in the community.

In closing I understand that this is a difficult situation, but I don't understand why permitting only a smaller grocery store can't be the solution. Please feel free to respond or ask for more information.

Sincerely, Leah Voigt Potter