

**From:** Anna Tumarkin [mailto:avek2003@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 15, 2011 9:07 AM  
**To:** Martin, Al; Murphy, Brad; Waidelich, Michael; Cover, Steven; Soglin, Paul  
**Subject:** Grandview Commons Town Center

Dear Committee Members, Our names are Vadim and Anna Tumarkin, we live on 6013 Sharpsburg Drive in Grandview Commons. We are writing to you to express our opposition to the proposed 58 000 sq.ft. grocery store in our community. In 2003, when we were deciding whether to buy a house in Grandview Commons or in a neighborhood on the West side of Madison, we were drawn to Grandview because of its potential to grow into a tight-knit community where neighbors know each other and children can safely play outside. We were assured that the street where our house stands would remain a quiet residential street and the area directly behind our house would be designated for small scale retail development, which we welcomed. Being one of the first families to move into this neighborhood, we have enjoyed watching Grandview Commons grow over the last eight years and have developed strong ties to this community. The news of a 58,000 sq. ft. supermarket in our backyard came as a complete shock as we had no reason to expect that such a large store would be built so close to our home. We would have never bought this house had we known that a store this size was planned for our neighborhood. We feel strongly that such a development will have a negative impact on our family's lifestyle and will lead to a decrease in the value of our property. But most importantly, we are concerned about the safety of our children, which, undoubtedly, will be compromised due to increased vehicle and pedestrian traffic on our street. Our house is located directly across from the pocket park on Sharpsburg Drive and our children, ages 8 and 11, frequently cross the street in order to access the park and the playground. Under the proposed plan Sharpsburg Drive could become a main thoroughfare to connect Door Creek and other surrounding neighborhoods to the store. We have no doubt that that would lead to Sharpsburg Drive becoming a dangerous place for young children playing or riding their bicycles on our street. In addition, our children have to cross Sharpsburg Drive every day to get to their school bus stop. It will be no longer possible for us to allow them to go to the bus stop without a chaperon if the grocery store plan is approved. We are also concerned that a large commercial development will damage the quiet neighborhood feeling we have enjoyed since the inception of Grandview Commons. The area will be saturated with shoppers, most of whom do not reside in our community. Our children will be constantly exposed to traffic, pollution, noises and lights from the store parking lot, as well as the dangers associated with people having access to a liquor store right in our neighborhood. On their website Veridian Homes describes Grandview Commons as a neighborhood "created with the principles of traditional neighborhood design, [that] harkens back to those days of quiet streets and shady front porches, and folks really knew their neighbors..." This is precisely what we were expecting from this neighborhood when we decided to buy our house. It seems that Veridian is now abandoning the idea of Grandview Commons as a safe neighborhood for people of all ages in favor of its business interests. Please consider the needs of families who already live here above the needs of commercial entities involved in this project and do not recommend a 58000 sq.ft. grocery store for our neighborhood. Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Sincerely, Anna and Vadim Tumarkin  
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