

From: Christian Hansen [mailto:christianhansen@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2007 2:29 PM
To: planadmin
Subject: 5 story parking structure

Dear members of the City Planning Commission:

I understand that the city is considering selling land at 2574 N. Downer Ave. to Boris Gohkman of New Land Enterprises. My husband and I as former, longtime east sider, who often frequent many of the shops and businesses on Downer, object to this plan. We feel it would overwhelm the site with its oversized scale. It would also clash esthetically with the older, historic buildings most of which are no taller than three stories.

When my husband and I visited Santa Fe some years ago, we were told that their city planning commission prohibited any buildings that were more than three stories tall, and only three architectural styles, considered compatible with existing buildings, were allowed. The result is a charming, small scale, pedestrian friendly, downtown, a model well worth emulating in Milwaukee. As you may know, Santa Fe is very successful in attracting many visitors each year.

We also think that the planned eleven story condo/apartment building in the 2600 block of Stowell Ave. is inappropriate in an area where the tallest, building around is five or six stories tall. It should be no taller than its tallest neighbor.

In a city where car travel is supreme, why not preserve a charming, quaint, historic pedestrian friendly area that warms the heart and soul?

Thank you for your consideration,

Christian and Doris Hansen