

## A Petition for Inclusion of the Empowerment Village "Proposed Exterior Court" in the final project design

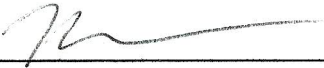

The Lincoln Village neighborhood is a diverse business district that is currently experiencing its most vibrant economic revitalization in decades. This positive upswing has come with the labor and investment of property and business owners along with the collaboration and assistance from the Lincoln Village Business Association in guiding the neighborhood's renewal. Years of coordinated efforts and deliberate planning have brought the neighborhood to its current economic vitality and despite this the efforts of Cardinal Capital and Empowerment Village serve to undermine our progress.

The presence of the current Our Space facility has negatively impacted the area's image due to the large number and frequency of loitering patrons that are served by Our Space. We feel that these patrons are residents of the area like any other, but that they require special attention and dedicated outdoor recreation space by the social service. The proposed development will add an additional 30 residents to the busy three-way intersection of S. Chase, W. Lincoln, and S. 6<sup>th</sup> St. Such an intensification of residents that have limited capabilities and independence will present a real danger to the patrons and to the neighborhood if an outdoor recreational area is not incorporated into the project. At present, the only facilities for outdoor recreation provided for Empowerment Village residents and patrons is the public right of way, hardly a sufficient area to encourage healthy lifestyles among patrons.

Included in previous plan stages, the Empowerment Village design included an outdoor "Exterior Court" (see attached) which allowed for a safe and monitored environment for recreation by the facility's patrons. This is beneficial for the health and safety of the patrons, as well as the vitality of the overall business district and our individual operations.

We, the neighboring business and property owners of the proposed Empowerment Village project, formally petition that the project's final plan (1) include the "Proposed Exterior Court". Further, we petition you, the City Plan Commission of Milwaukee, (2) to promote quality development that is responsive to the neighborhood's concerns through the inclusion of the "Proposed Exterior Court" in the final design of Empowerment Village and (3) if the project's developer does not comply with our concerns, that their request for zoning change be denied.

Signed:

Name(print)	Signature	Address
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