

From: [Candace Brookins](#)
To: [Mayor Tom Barrett](#); [Hamilton, Ashanti](#); [Johnson, Cavalier](#); [Kovac, Nik](#); [Stamper II, Russell](#); [Bauman, Robert](#); [Dodd, Nikiya](#); [Coggs, Milele](#); [Rainey, Khalif](#); [Donovan, Robert](#); [Lewis, Chantia](#); [Murphy, Michael \(Alderman\)](#); [Borkowski, Mark](#); [Perez, Jose](#); [Spiker, Scott](#); [Zielinski, Tony](#)
Cc: [Lee, Chris](#)
Subject: Strauss Slaughterhouse Building
Date: Sunday, October 13, 2019 8:08:50 PM

Dear Mayor Barrett and Milwaukee Common Council members,

Please do not consider allowing Strauss Slaughterhouse to open its doors at Century City in the middle of the great city of Milwaukee. A slaughter does not belong near a residential community.

Allowing a slaughterhouse to operate in a neighborhood that is already struggling will only create more suffering in that community.

This is a social justice issue. A slaughterhouse is a dangerous place for those who work in it and for those who live near it. It is hell for the animals, for public health and for our environment:

1. Local crime rates go up wherever and whenever slaughterhouses open (especially violent crimes), according to Amy Fitzgerald, a professor of criminology who discovered a direct link between slaughterhouses and violent crime.

2. Workers suffer high rates of PTSD, substance abuse and domestic violence.

3. US meat workers are three times more likely to suffer serious injury than the average American worker. Amputations, fractured fingers, second-degree burns and head trauma are among these serious injuries, according to data reported by the Guardian and the Bureau of Investigative Journalism.

4. Slaughterhouse workers often dread their jobs and would quit if they could find other work. They deserve better jobs that don't exploit them and damage their mental health.

5. Blood and feces are plastered all over the walls of these buildings, posing a serious public safety and health threat by exposing workers and communities to foodborne illness outbreaks and increased rodent infestation problems.

6. Decrease in property value due to the stench and noises/sounds coming from distraught animals.

Milwaukee should be working on moving the city forward by encouraging and welcoming new ideas and solutions that benefit everyone. How about bringing “Green Jobs” to the city of Milwaukee? This community needs good jobs that pay fair wages and that help the area thrive.

I urge you all to take a step back from fast tracking the Strauss Slaughterhouse in Century City. This is not just a business and it's not just about bringing in jobs. A slaughterhouse is definitely not the type of business to bring into a residential area. The neighbors do not know about this. This deal was crafted in haste without any public notification or input into this. There is now a growing group of concerned citizens outraged by what's happening.

Many cities, including Chicago, are moving away from having slaughterhouses within city limits for all the reasons listed above.

Would you have agreed to this slaughterhouse being placed in your neighborhood, next to Fiserv Forum, near Whitefish Bay or some other residential neighborhood of a different socioeconomic standing?

Jobs are not just jobs. Slaughterhouse work is among the most exploitative, dangerous and relatively low paid work in the market. Century City would be better served by any other business.

Thank you,

Candace Brookins Knaebe

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