

## Melendez, Yadira

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**From:** Cooney, Jim  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2026 10:30 AM  
**To:** Melendez, Yadira  
**Cc:** Lopez, Faviola  
**Subject:** FW: Paper Table Food Co. Follow-Up  
**Attachments:** Milwaukee Parking Slack Channel.pdf

Yadira,

Can you add this to the 10:55 item on 5/19?

Thanks

**From:** Joe Denother <joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2026 10:08 AM  
**To:** Bauman, Robert <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>  
**Cc:** Joshua Gimbel <jlgimbel@grgblaw.com>; Riley Andrews <riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com>; DeLessio, Ax <Axdp@milwaukee.gov>; Zak Wroblewski <Zwroblewski@grgblaw.com>; Cooney, Jim <Jim.Cooney@milwaukee.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Paper Table Food Co. Follow-Up

Dear Alderman Bauman,

I wanted to follow up and reiterate that we continue to actively monitor and document parking related issues in the neighborhood, consistent with the mitigation plan previously shared with the City. Attached is a PDF document showing our logs for several days over the past couple weeks where CloudKitchens staff document incidents and operational observations in real time.

As part of our parking mitigation efforts:

- Staff regularly monitor parking activity around the facility
- If a courier visiting our business is double parked, staff instruct them to move their vehicle before being served
- If a double parker appears affiliated with a neighboring business, staff document the activity but do not intervene directly
- If there is an ongoing or long term parking issue, staff submit reports to parking enforcement

The attached document illustrates that this is a complex issue with many contributing factors. It is not accurate to characterize our operation as the sole cause of the congestion challenges on the block. To the contrary, we believe we are doing more than any other operator in the area to actively monitor, document, and improve the situation.

As previously discussed, our mitigation plan has included signage prohibiting double parking, staff intervention during peak hours, active monitoring, and coordination with enforcement where possible. We remain committed to continuing and strengthening these efforts.

In addition, we have scheduled a community meeting for 2:00 PM, Friday 5/15 at 330 East Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 1170, Milwaukee, WI 53202. We would welcome either you or a member of your staff to attend. We are inviting neighboring businesses and other interested stakeholders known to us so we can openly discuss concerns, share perspectives, and explore potential solutions collaboratively.

To date, we have already had conversations with neighboring business owners Omar and Prince, as well as a nearby resident, David. Those discussions were constructive and hopeful, though it is clear that reaching a workable long term solution will require collaboration and compromise from all parties involved.

As previously requested, we would greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with you prior to the upcoming hearing on 5/19. Would you happen to have any availability on 5/18 so we can share the outcomes of the community meeting and discuss a possible path forward?

Lastly, we would respectfully renew our request that Happy Holdings, one of our existing operators, be allowed to receive a provisional renewal while we work through this process in good faith. We understand your position regarding new licenses; however, denying this renewal would force an existing local business to cease operations and would directly impact its employees. We respectfully ask for the opportunity to continue operating while we work collaboratively toward a solution.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Joe Denother  
General Manager  
Papertable Food Co.  
[joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com)  
314-680-6898

On Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 6:35 PM Bauman, Robert <[rjbauma@milwaukee.gov](mailto:rjbauma@milwaukee.gov)> wrote:

It is actually disturbing that your client is not aware of the failure of their mitigation plan. It suggests a lack of supervision and management because the issues are very plain to see to anyone who spends any time observing the operation of the business during prime time.

There also seems to be a suggestion that the city or my office has some obligation to notify your client of these issues. We have no such obligation. We receive complaints from constituents and stakeholders and place them in the file. We evaluate these files as matters come up for renewal or new licenses. We sign off or object based on that file. Applicants can appeal denials. We hold hearings and objectors can testify and the committee decides.

Yes at this point I intend to object to every new and renewal of food dealer licenses based on the level and nature of the complaints as is my right. Each applicant can appeal and hearings will be held. Objectors can testify at each hearing.

We can meet at some point. Gathering all objectors together is a daunting exercise that will take some time.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 14, 2026, at 4:04 PM, Joshua Gimbel <[jlgimbel@grgblaw.com](mailto:jlgimbel@grgblaw.com)> wrote:

Bob

As Joe Denother noted in his April 2 and 3 emails to your office, he hasn't received any feedback on the mitigation plan Paper Table established some two years ago. Our client intends to work with you and the City to address the traffic issues. A blanket denial of license renewals would jeopardize our client's and its vendors' ability to remain in business. It makes sense to convene a meeting of all stakeholders (including neighbors, business operators, and valet providers) to collaboratively address traffic concerns and find a solution that works for everyone. We stand ready to meet at your earliest opportunity.

Josh

**Joshua L. Gimbel**, Attorney At Law

Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown LLP

330 East Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 1170

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

T. 414-224-3648 F. 414-271-7680

[jlgimbel@grgblaw.com](mailto:jlgimbel@grgblaw.com)

[www.grgblaw.com](http://www.grgblaw.com)

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**From:** Bauman, Robert <[rjbauma@milwaukee.gov](mailto:rjbauma@milwaukee.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 10, 2026 9:33 PM

**To:** Joshua Gimbel <[jlgimbel@grgblaw.com](mailto:jlgimbel@grgblaw.com)>

**Cc:** Riley Andrews <[riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com)>; DeLessio, Ax <[Axdp@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Axdp@milwaukee.gov)>; Zak Wroblewski <[Zwroblewski@grgblaw.com](mailto:Zwroblewski@grgblaw.com)>; Joe Denother <[joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Paper Table Food Co. Follow-Up

Yes we can as a curtesy but I do not see a road forward. Resident opposition (voters) and other businesses have strong opposition. I have personally observed the parking disorder. Your client's business model is a fundamental problem and perhaps a fatal problem. I am equally disturbed that they profess ignorance, which suggests they are not supervising the operation. Your client might consider a plan B for this space.

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 10, 2026, at 11:39 AM, Joshua Gimbel <[jlgimbel@grglaw.com](mailto:jlgimbel@grglaw.com)> wrote:

Bob

Can we get a meeting on your calendar?

Thanks

Josh

**Joshua L. Gimbel**, Attorney At Law

Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown LLP

330 East Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 1170

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

T. 414-224-3648 F. 414-271-7680

[jlgimbel@grglaw.com](mailto:jlgimbel@grglaw.com)

[www.grglaw.com](http://www.grglaw.com)

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**From:** Joshua Gimbel

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 8, 2026 7:46 AM

**To:** 'Bauman, Robert' <[rjbauma@milwaukee.gov](mailto:rjbauma@milwaukee.gov)>; Cooney, Jim <[Jim.Cooney@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Jim.Cooney@milwaukee.gov)>; 'Melendez, Yadira' <[yadira.melendez@milwaukee.gov](mailto:yadira.melendez@milwaukee.gov)>

**Cc:** 'Riley Andrews' <[riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com)>; 'DeLessio, Ax' <[Axdp@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Axdp@milwaukee.gov)>; Zak Wroblewski <[Zwroblewski@grglaw.com](mailto:Zwroblewski@grglaw.com)>; 'Joe Denother' <[joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Paper Table Food Co. Follow-Up

I haven't heard back, and we will assume these two hearings have been removed from today's agenda.

Alderman – we look forward to working with you.

Thanks

Josh

**Joshua L. Gimbel**, Attorney At Law

Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown LLP

330 East Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 1170

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

T. 414-224-3648 F. 414-271-7680

[jlgimbel@grglaw.com](mailto:jlgimbel@grglaw.com)

[www.grglaw.com](http://www.grglaw.com)

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**From:** Joshua Gimbel

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2026 10:00 AM

**To:** Bauman, Robert <[rjbauma@milwaukee.gov](mailto:rjbauma@milwaukee.gov)>; Cooney, Jim <[Jim.Cooney@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Jim.Cooney@milwaukee.gov)>; Melendez, Yadira <[yadira.melendez@milwaukee.gov](mailto:yadira.melendez@milwaukee.gov)>

**Cc:** Riley Andrews <[riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com)>; DeLessio, Ax <[Axdp@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Axdp@milwaukee.gov)>; Zak Wroblewski <[Zwroblewski@grglaw.com](mailto:Zwroblewski@grglaw.com)>; 'Joe Denother' <[joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Paper Table Food Co. Follow-Up

Good morning all

Our client has requested that the 3:15 and 3:20 hearings be removed from tomorrow's License Committee agenda so the parties can meet with Alderman Bauman.

Please let us know if you need any further information. I understand Riley Andrews has spoken with the Licensing Division but has not yet received confirmation of this request.

Thank you

Josh

PS to Alderman Bauman and Ax – please advise as to your availability in the coming days.

**Joshua L. Gimbel**, Attorney At Law

Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown LLP

330 East Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 1170

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

T. 414-224-3648 F. 414-271-7680

[jlgimbel@grglaw.com](mailto:jlgimbel@grglaw.com)

[www.grglaw.com](http://www.grglaw.com)

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**From:** Joe Denother <[joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2026 12:00 PM

**To:** Bauman, Robert <[rjbauma@milwaukee.gov](mailto:rjbauma@milwaukee.gov)>

**Cc:** Riley Andrews <[riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com)>; DeLessio, Ax <[Axdp@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Axdp@milwaukee.gov)>; Joshua Gimbel <[jlgimbel@grglaw.com](mailto:jlgimbel@grglaw.com)>; Zak Wroblewski <[Zwroblewski@grglaw.com](mailto:Zwroblewski@grglaw.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Paper Table Food Co. Follow-Up

Dear Alderman Bauman,

Thank you for your candid response and for sharing your perspective. We understand the level of frustration from both you and the surrounding businesses and residents, and we take those concerns seriously.

At the same time, I do want to respectfully reiterate that, up to this point, we had not received direct feedback from the City indicating that our previously implemented mitigation efforts were falling short or that the situation had escalated to this level. We have been operating under the assumption that we

were adhering to the agreed-upon plan, and we remain fully committed to making meaningful improvements where needed.

We recognize that the current conditions are not acceptable, and we share your goal of bringing the situation under control. However, a blanket decision to deny all new applications and renewals will have a significant impact on our business, as well as on local partners like Milk Can and others seeking to invest and grow in the downtown area. For that reason, we would greatly value the opportunity to work collaboratively with you and the City to develop a mitigation approach that is both effective and sustainable for all stakeholders.

To that end, we have re-engaged Josh Gimbel and his firm to support us in identifying a path forward and ensuring we are approaching this in a thoughtful and constructive manner.

We would sincerely appreciate the opportunity to meet with you as soon as possible to discuss potential solutions. If helpful in facilitating that conversation, we are prepared to withdraw our current application for outdoor seating, and we will also explore whether our partner currently scheduled for a hearing would be willing to withdraw their application as well. Our intention is to create space for productive dialogue before proceeding further through the formal process.

We are committed to being part of the solution and to rebuilding trust with you and the community. Thank you again for your time and consideration, and we hope to connect soon.

Sincerely,  
Joe Denother  
General Manager  
Papertable Food Co.  
[joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com)  
314-680-6898

On Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 2:29 PM Bauman, Robert <[rjbauma@milwaukee.gov](mailto:rjbauma@milwaukee.gov)> wrote:

We have been through this before and your solutions did not work. Anyone present at that location for even a short time would readily observe that situation is out of control. I have observed it myself. I am not going to get burned again. I have businesses and residents on the block who are up in arms.

I will not be supporting any renewals or new license applications for this location.

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**From:** Joe Denother <[joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 2, 2026 3:53 PM

**To:** Bauman, Robert <[rjbauma@milwaukee.gov](mailto:rjbauma@milwaukee.gov)>  
**Cc:** Riley Andrews <[riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:riley.andrews@cloudkitchens.com)>; DeLessio, Ax  
<[Axdp@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Axdp@milwaukee.gov)>  
**Subject:** Paper Table Food Co. Follow-Up

You don't often get email from [joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Alderman Bauman,

I hope you are doing well. I am writing to acknowledge receipt of the notice to appear at the upcoming meeting on April 8th regarding parking and traffic concerns on Milwaukee Street.

We would greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with you in advance of the hearing to discuss the situation in more detail and ensure we are aligned on both the concerns and potential solutions. To date, we have not received any direct feedback indicating that our previously agreed-upon mitigation efforts were insufficient or that there were ongoing concerns. We have been actively executing the plan as outlined and remain fully committed to being a responsible and proactive partner in addressing neighborhood issues.

That said, we are absolutely open to adjustments, enhancements, or new solutions that better serve the community. Our goal is to work collaboratively with you, the City, and neighboring businesses to find a path forward that is fair, effective, and sustainable for all parties involved.

One of our immediate concerns is the current permitting hold affecting Milk Can, a local small business seeking to expand into the downtown area, as well as other prospective partners interested in investing in this location. We believe there is a viable path forward that supports both community needs and small business growth, and we are eager to help find it.

We also want to acknowledge that we recently received emails outlining complaints for the first time, and we are taking those concerns seriously. However, we do feel it is important to clarify that the traffic and parking challenges on this block are not solely attributable to our operations. There are broader issues at play, including other businesses and valet operations utilizing loading zones improperly and blocking parking spaces in ways that contribute significantly to congestion. Unfortunately, this can create the perception that our facility is the primary source of the problem. The attached document outlines maps of the current situation, potential enhancements, and recent photos documenting common occurrences related to valet operations that have a significant impact on traffic flow.

We welcome the opportunity to review these concerns with you directly, share data and observations from our mitigation efforts, and work toward a more comprehensive, community-wide approach to managing traffic on this block.

Thank you again for your time and continued partnership. Please let us know your availability for a meeting ahead of April 8th.

Sincerely,  
Joe Denother  
General Manager  
Papertable Food Co.  
[joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com](mailto:joe.denother@cloudkitchens.com)  
314-680-6898

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