

Lee, Chris

From: Taylor, Larresa
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 4:31 PM
To: Owczarski, Jim; Lee, Chris
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment for Cudahy Farms Development Item Tuesday, July 14 Zoning Meeting

Jim is it possible to attach this letter to the zoning file regarding Cudahy Farms
Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Moore, Sharlen" <Sharlen.Moore@milwaukee.gov>
Date: July 14, 2025 at 8:00:05 PM CDT
To: Ryeshia Farmer <ryeshia@africanamericanroundtable.org>, "Taylor, Larresa" <Larresa.Taylor@milwaukee.gov>, "Perez, Jose" <JoseG.Perez@milwaukee.gov>
Cc: Markasa Tucker-Harris <markasa@africanamericanroundtable.org>
Subject: RE: Public Comment for Cudahy Farms Development Item Tuesday, July 14 Zoning Meeting

Good evening Ryeshia, thank you for sharing your concerns. Your email has been noted.

Sharlen

From: Ryeshia Farmer <ryeshia@africanamericanroundtable.org>
Sent: Monday, July 14, 2025 7:32 PM
To: Taylor, Larresa <Larresa.Taylor@milwaukee.gov>; Perez, Jose <JoseG.Perez@milwaukee.gov>
Cc: Markasa Tucker-Harris <markasa@africanamericanroundtable.org>
Subject: Public Comment for Cudahy Farms Development Item Tuesday, July 14 Zoning Meeting

Hi,
I'm Ryeshia Farmer, a resident of Ald. Taylor's 9th District and Community Program Manager with the African American Roundtable (AART). I'm writing with a public comment on the proposed Royal Capital Cudahy Farms Development at the John Cudahy YMCA.

I first learned of the proposal at a meeting hosted by the Alderwan on July 16, 2023. At that meeting I heard residents share environmental concerns and questions about how the development would impact nearby trees, wetlands, and wildlife. When Milwaukee's winters are experiencing less snow, wildfires pollute our air, the sun's heat produces dangerous heat waves, and groups like the Havenwoods State Forest Park advocate for better care and awareness toward our local parks and wildlife, it is unacceptable to ignore these resident's concerns.

Also at that 2023 meeting, I heard residents express concerns about overcrowding in a community where they'd settled in for solace, safety, and serenity away from the hustle and bustle of busier parts of our city. In this moment in time, when the world and my neighbors, many of which are anchor residents/elders/families seeking refuge from communities navigating the pressures of fighting for resources and safe spaces, it is unacceptable for Royal Capitol, or anyone, to disturb my neighbors' peace.

From the July 2023 meeting, it became and remains clear that there's misalignment between the Royal Capital Development Group and the residents of our district, who feel the project would negatively impact their community. As a resident of the Woodlands Condominium Community, and a leader at an organization dedicated to educating, civically engaging, and otherwise supporting residents of Aldermanic Districts 5 and 9 (two districts where residents are often un- or under- represented in the decisions made for their communities), I share AART's opposition to this development that neglects residents' voices. It's my priority as a neighbor to ensure this council knows a fuller range of what their constituents views are. I also have personal concerns, as a 30 yesar resident of Milwaukee and nearly 5 year resident of the Northwest Side, that as housing developers monopolize properties in ways that perpetually, negatively impact Black, brown, and low-to-no income families, these developers are creating a Milwaukee that feels unlivable for those of us who fall in those demographic groups. An unlivable Milwaukee is an unwelcoming one, and an unwelcoming Milwaukee, where success and belonging has historically and is undeniably driven by diverse culture, is unacceptable.

I, and the African American Roundtable, urge the council to vote against rezoning the John Cudahy YMCA to accomodate the Cudahy Farms Decelopment proposed by Royal Capitol. Voting against rezoning would move Milwaukee closer to being liveable and welcoming to all types of residents and be the only acceptable thing to do in representation of residents. Voting in support of rezoning would not only be unacceptable but would also drive continued distrust from residents in the council as well as increased feelings of neglect and lack of representation for parts of the Woodlands and Northwest Side. Please make a choice your constituents can accept with appreciation, reverance, and mutual support.

Thank you.

Ryeshia Farmer (she/her)
AART Community Program Manager