



Judith Shimkus  
635 South 70<sup>th</sup> Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53214  
3 March, 2011

City of Milwaukee  
Planning  
2nd Floor, 809 N. Broadway  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find a cc: of a letter sent to Ald. Michael Murphy regarding a proposed Wal-Mart development at 70<sup>th</sup> @ Main Street.

Judith Shimkus

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Judith Shimkus'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

owner, 635 South 70<sup>th</sup> St.

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*SALES, PARTS and SERVICE for HEATING and COOLING EQUIPMENT*

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Alderman Michael Murphy  
City Hall, Room 205  
200 East Wells Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Mr. Murphy

I am writing this letter to voice my opposition to a project proposed by Wal-Mart in cooperation with Gatlin Development Company. The project would establish a Wal-Mart grocery and pharmacy retail outlet on a vacant property near 70<sup>th</sup> and Main Street. I own a business adjoining the 70<sup>th</sup> and Main Street proposed location of the project.

I do not believe that this project would be a welcome development either for the presently established business community or for the residents of the affected neighborhood.

**Traffic.** The new store will create extraordinary amounts of traffic on streets that are already dangerously congested. Traffic on 70<sup>th</sup> Street is higher than it was 10 years ago, largely due to the new office and school spaces developed in the old Allis Chalmers complex at 70<sup>th</sup> and Greenfield. A high volume of traffic travels at high speeds with frequent turnoffs and stops. Adding to this the traffic of a newly-created large retail outlet, and we have written a recipe for impending disaster. The end of tranquility for the residential neighborhood, and traffic headaches for all.

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**Liquor sales tend to attract crime to an area.** To verify this, you have only to check the police records (West Allis) for the present grocery and liquor operation at Pick 'n' Save, located six blocks south at 70<sup>th</sup> and Greenfield. Neither the businesses nor the residents of the area would welcome the increase in criminal activity, and dwindling law-enforcement budgets will not accommodate the necessary patrols to control this.

**Litter.** Wal-Mart customers litter more than other store's clientele. Take a tour of any nearby Wal-Mart to verify for yourself. You'll see:

- Migrated and abandoned shopping carts on the streets
- Food wrappers on neighbor's lawns
- Parking-lot "mechanic's" litter
- People cleaning out their cars in the parking lot.

None of these items could be considered a "neighborhood improvement".

For these reasons I believe that introduction of a Wal-Mart operation at 70<sup>th</sup> and Main would have a destructive impact on the neighborhood. Development should NOT be allowed to proceed.

Sincerely

Judith Shimkus  
owner, 635 South 70<sup>th</sup> St.

JS/gg  
cc: Plan Commission