

The Annex Group – Union at Madison

Community Focus Group

June 9, 2020 | 6:00 – 7:00 PM | Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Lesleigh Luttrell, Jacki Herschberger, Caitlin Badsing, Jay Jerde, Helen Osborne Senatus, Jenny Goodnough, Renee Walk, Jenny Quinn, Melissa Huggins, Marcus Pearson, Quinn Heneghan

Questions/Comments

- Developers should have done more research on the area.
 - Cherokee Marsh is a state conservation area.
 - Impact of F35 flight plan on neighborhood
 - Deforest Schools
1. Thinking about your neighborhood in general, what does the neighborhood need most?
 - Improved transportation. Bus service is only on the half hour during the week and on the hour on the weekends.
 - Improved park space
 2. What are some existing concerns you have for your neighborhood? (For example: traffic, infrastructure, green/open/community space, transportation, etc.)
 - Walkability to neighborhood businesses, daycare centers
 - Park land
 - Public transportation
 - Activities for youth
 - Emergency service(s) access
 - Signalization and traffic calming on CV, Packers, Whitetail Ridge to Wheeler, especially with increased development
 - Concern that youth will not be connected because of differing school districts (neighborhood connectivity affected)
 3. How can the Union at Madison development project help address these neighborhood concerns?
 - Issue with location is lack of access to amenities. Is it possible to incorporate the following into the community space/development so that people will want to move there?
 - Computer lab
 - Small library
 - Basketball courts
 - Indoor/outdoor activities
 - Suggested talking to other community centers such as Vera Court



4. What are some specific concerns you have regarding the Union at Madison housing development?

- What kind of low-income housing?
- Who is the developer and why Madison?
- Costs of rentals?
- Will construction labor be done by local contactors?
- The name they picked is not good because of the association with the UW Madison Union, Union Cab, etc. - dumb name

5. Any other thoughts we have not discussed?

- Connectivity with community
- Community gardens available to all?
- Contact Northside Planning Council
- Cherokee Marsh includes a state natural area and a city conservation park. There is also a county park that includes part of the marsh but it is the state natural area and the city park which are in the immediate area of the proposed development.
- Deforest schools may or may not be problematic - the real question is do the Developers understand that the area is currently in the Deforest School District and that does not change just because it is annexed to the city.
- I do have concerns about the name but the way you describe them in the notes makes it sounds like being associated with the Memorial Union, Union Cab, etc. is bad because of a negative connotation. The problem is confusion.

