

SASY

Schenk-Atwood-Starkweather-Yahara Neighborhood Association

2 Aug, 2011

TO: Madison City Council

Subject: City of Madison Redistricting, Amendment No. 3

On behalf of the SASY Neighborhood Association, I am writing to express SASY's strong opposition to the proposed Amendment Number 3.

As proposed, this amendment would have a dramatic and unwelcome impact on three East Isthmus neighborhood associations and their residents. The impact would:

1. Create a situation where the Eken Park Neighborhood Association is divided into multiple districts and would require coordination between the neighborhood and multiple alderpersons.
2. Move Union Corners to District 12 and away from District 6. Over the years, SASY committees and individuals in the SASY neighborhood have worked alongside alders Marsha Rummel and Satya Rhodes-Conway, City planners, the Mayor's office, Friends of Union Corners, EINPC and surrounding residents to make progress with re-envisioning Union Corners. Those efforts continue. This challenging area of the city needs the continuity that SASY has provided. SASY would not welcome Union Corners cut away from district 6.
3. Move part of the Eastmorland Neighborhood into District 6, with similar impacts as described in 1. above.

Amendment 3 runs clearly counter to a core principle set forth with redistricting plans - to ensure that "communities of interest" remain intact. Instead this amendment appears, intentionally or not, to temporarily benefit one specific alder and disregards the long term interests of communities that would be greatly affected.

SASY first learned the specifics of Amendment 3 late Friday afternoon from a City staffer. A single business day is far too short a time to respond constructively to an important issue like this; the vast majority of the residents in the affected districts know nothing of the late developments contained in this Amendment and have had no time to react to it.

SASY Neighborhood Association stands strongly opposed to Amendment 3.

Respectfully,



Lou Host-Jablonski
Chair, SASY (Schenk-Atwood-Starkweather-Yahara Neighborhood Association)

Cc: Marsha Rummel, Satya Rhodes-Conway, Larry Palm
Brian Grady
EINPC
Friends of Union Corners