

September 2, 2014

Dear CARPC Board Members,

As a former Mayor of Fitchburg, I am writing in support of the proposed North East Neighborhood in Fitchburg.

It took me 34 years to come to that conclusion. When development was proposed in the north east quadrant in the early 80's, I felt it was premature and unplanned and I openly opposed it.

When I was Mayor in the mid 80's a plastic factory was proposed in the area near McCoy Road using part of the e-way. I fought that development because of the e-way and because it was not part of any of the Fitchburg planning.

I hired the first planner for Fitchburg and am proud that my successors worked hard at doing good, environmentally sound land use planning that included much public input. I was the Dane County Planning Director when Fitchburg submitted their plans to the County Regional Planning Commission and I spoke to the commission on behalf of the Fitchburg's Comprehensive Land Use Plan. I knew that the Fitchburg Planning Commission had held many public input sessions and public hearings on their plan. It has been supported by 3 mayors.

My alderman, Steve Arnold, who is a staunch environmentalist, was head of the committee that negotiated the conditions of the development. With all the planning Fitchburg had done and with Steve Arnold voting for the plan, I felt that finally after 34 years, I could support development in the north eastern part of Fitchburg.

Sincerely,

G. Jeanie Sieling,
Former Dane County Planning Director
Former Mayor of Fitchburg

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