



DANE COUNTY

Joe Parisi
County Executive

February 24, 2016

Dear Ms. Prime,

Thank you for contacting me in your capacity as President of the Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association regarding plans to establish a day resource center at 1326 East Washington Avenue. Your interest in this issue and your leadership, especially during the large listening session that was held in the Messner building, is appreciated.

I am eager to address the two concerns raised in your letter. First, the county will not pursue a CUP for the Messner building until after an operator has been selected. That has always been my position. Those who will be directly responsible for the operations of the facility will be best able to address concerns and answer questions raised during the CUP review process.

Second, you expressed concern that the neighborhood has not been party to discussions related to the scope, operations and design of the day resource center. High level county staff, including the Director of the Department of Human Services and the Director of the Department of Planning and Development have been present at multiple meetings in the neighborhood regarding this project. You can expect that kind of effort to continue as this project progresses. They have collected valuable information and feedback that has been, and will continue to be, used as we make another attempt at securing an operator.

Attached, please find a memo addressed to the members of the Dane County Board which details the County's efforts over the past several years to locate a day resource center. As you can see, it has been a struggle despite this being a top priority for policy makers in Dane County. I hope this gives a perspective as to where we have been and where we are going in terms of locating this important community resource.

I hope this information is helpful to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Joe Parisi
Dane County Executive