

Note to residents: We discussed many other issues Tuesday besides problems at the store, including engaging and educating neighborhood children, but we are leaving some of these comments aside to focus more directly on concerns at the store as requested of us by this committee. You are encouraged to greet and talk with neighborhood children, promote positive activities, etc. Even though we are not discussing that tonight it remains a very important thing that anyone can do.

**For the May 31, 2007 Sustainable Neighborhood Listening Committee:**

**What features neighborhood residents want in the West Sixth Street area:**

- Safe
- Attractive
- Clean
- Peaceful
- Quiet

**What has the store done since 1993:**

- some repairs
- better cleanup of the premises
- removal of the pay phone
- painting
- better lighting
- clearer view through the store windows.

**But problems continue**

- 60-70% of calls to the store are about disturbances, trouble with kids, ordinance violations, and suspicious activities.
- People converge to fight, disperse when neighbors call police, and return after police leave
- Loiterers block doorway inside and outside of store
- Lack of respect displayed by both customers and store owners
- Children are overcharged
- Most problems are caused by adults
- COP Officers, parole agents, Community Reentry Program public meetings identify those with drug dealing history or who associate with drug dealers. Suspicious activity (numerous trips to store in a few hours, hand-to-hand transactions) suggests that they are dealing.
- Residents see far more going on at the store than people briefly passing through the area.

**What the store owners should do:**

- Immediately enforce already posted signs discouraging loitering and disturbances
- Immediately call police when problems arise. We have observed that this is not always the case.
- Immediately store personnel can use the gas pump microphone to move loiterers along and have people turn off their music. They can also call police when someone has been loitering for more than 5 minutes, whether around the entrance, within the store, or in the parking lot.
- By June 15, 2007, stop selling drug paraphernalia (blunt wraps, tube panties and rolling papers)
- By June 15, 2007, close nightly at 10 p.m.
- By June 15, 2007, hire off-duty, uniformed Racine police officers daily for last three hours of store business, from 7-10 p.m.
- Within one month install security cameras which will survey the entire exterior of the property
- Within one month install speed bumps near driveways to discourage drivers cutting through or speeding out of parking lot

**What neighbors agree to do:**

- Immediately call police whenever and wherever suspicious activity is observed
- Continue to keep log sheets
- Patronize store as it begins to improve
- Let alderman know if problems continue