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Communication from the Director of City Development and the Chief Building

Inspector requesting the development of aesthetic standards for the sidewalk cafe permit.

Engel – Refer to City Plan Commission, Downtown Area Design Review

Commission and the Access Corridor Development Review Committee.

Department of City Development

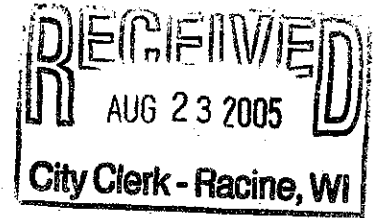
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August 23, 2005



Honorable Mayor Gary Becker
Members of the Common Council
City Of Racine
730 Washington Avenue
Racine, WI 53403

Re: Approval Process and Aesthetics Standards for Sidewalk Cafes.

Honorable Mayor and members of the Common Council:

Please refer the above described matter to the Plan Commission, Downtown Area Design Review Commission, and the Access Corridor Development Review Committee so that appropriate ordinance amendments and aesthetic standards may be developed for adoption.

To explain, the recently adopted sidewalk café ordinance is proving to be cumbersome to administer and difficult to interpret due to the involvement of multiple committees and the absence of applicable aesthetics standards.

We would like to propose that following the development of appropriate aesthetics standards the enabling ordinance for sidewalk cafes be amended to eliminate the need for Plan Commission review and recommendation. These duties would instead be placed under the purview of the Chief Building Inspector and Director of City Development, who would assume the responsibility of forwarding a recommendation to the licensing authority.

Development of aesthetics standards and the implementation of staff review should prove to streamline the application process for the applicant.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian F. O'Connell
Director of City Development

Rick Heller
Chief Building Inspector

Refer to City Plan Commission, Downtown Area Design Review Com & Access Corridor Development Review Com.