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Subject: PETITION: CUP 02599 APPLICANT: DAN AND MARLENE LA FLEUR LOCATION: 3440 MEADOW ROAD, SECTION 32, TOWN OF MIDDLETON CUP DESCRIPTION: small-animal boarding facility

The proposal for a 100-dog kennel and dog daycare facility at 3440 Meadow Rd in the town of Middleton should not be approved due to the potential negative impact it could have on the surrounding neighborhoods. Dog noise in a kennel or daycare center can be as loud as 115 dB, which is as loud as a chainsaw or loud concert and can be easily heard one full mile away. This noise could potentially be extremely disruptive and bothersome for the residents of Hawks Landing, Hawks Woods, and 1000 Oaks neighborhoods, which are adjacent to the proposed facility. Moreover, with drop-off times as early as 6:30 am, the noise levels could prove particularly bothersome to nearby residents who are trying to sleep or conduct their regular morning routines in peace. If the facility were to build a sound wall around their facility like we have on highways though, that would solve this issue and I would not be opposed to it.

My other big worry is staffing and care for the dogs, since I myself am a dog owner. Staffing a 100-dog kennel facility is a challenge that must be considered before approving the proposal. Such a large kennel facility would require a substantial number of qualified employees to maintain the highest standards of safety and animal welfare. It is imperative to have enough staff members to ensure the dogs receive proper care, attention, and supervision, especially during peak hours when numerous dogs are outdoors and playing together. Given the scale of this operation, it is also important to take into account potential staff turnover, and to ensure that the kennel avoids understaffing, which could lead to inadequate care and safety issues for the dogs, and ultimately, customer dissatisfaction. Therefore, it is crucial that the proprietor presents a detailed staffing plan to provide sufficient supervision, care, and attention to the extensive number of dogs living in the kennel. Without a clear and comprehensive staffing strategy, it would be premature to approve this proposal. Currently they only talk about having 7 full-time employees but how many will be on site at any given time? The daycare I currently use have at least 5 on site employees at any given time and have half the capacity.