

## Teresa Kadavy

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**From:** Seymore Kevin <klseymore@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 9:18 AM  
**To:** Teresa Kadavy  
**Cc:** Christie Hawkins; Amy Dzialowski; Alane Zannotti; William Joyce -Mayor  
**Subject:** RE: Map Amendment Request MA21-14

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RE: Map Amendment Request MA21-14

City Clerk: Please include the following content as part of the official city record.

I am a concerned citizen of Stillwater who has lived in this community since 2004. In that time, I have had the pleasure of making friends and becoming co-workers with people who live throughout the different neighbors of our town. It has recently come to my attention from a friend that her neighborhood along Western is in jeopardy of being rezoned and redeveloped for commercial buildings. I drive along Western to commute to work, and I have visited my friend in her home numerous times, so I am very familiar with the neighborhood. It is my belief that Stillwater would be losing way more than it would gain if it were to allow that neighborhood to disappear as a residential zone. Families here need good places to live, and you would be sacrificing one of the better neighborhoods in town for commercial property that could be located in some other part of town that is already commercial in nature.

As an employee of OSU, I have the opportunity to sit on a number of hiring committees, and I know there are young faculty members coming to town who want to find good housing that will fit within the budget of an OSU salary. The houses in this neighborhood are the types of homes that young professors can afford and keep them pretty close to campus. When I tried to buy a house of my own here back in May, I saw what demand there is for living space there is in this housing market. Stillwater doesn't need to be taking good houses off the market and replacing them with strip malls and commercial buildings.

Sometimes the status quo needs to change, and sometimes it needs not to change. I am of the firm believe that the status quo along Western needs to be maintained for the sake of keeping a good neighborhood of older homes intact and not disrupting the lives of those families at a time when all of our lives have been disrupted enough already through the Covid pandemic. We have no great lake or river or mountain range surrounding the city as a natural barrier. If commercial expansion is needed, it need not take place where families are putting their children to bed at night and where they are writing checks to the city in the form of property taxes to stay where they are and want to be.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Seymore  
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Stillwater, OK, 74074