

October 27, 2015

Lexington City Council
Lexington Planning Commission
406 East 7th Street
Lexington, NE 68850

Dear Council and Committee members:

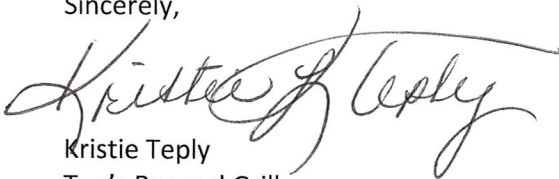
The purpose of this letter is to express my concerns over the issuing of the Conditional Use Permit that is being considered for the property on Grant Street. It is my understanding that the permit is to allow the conversion of the old laundry into a Mosque. As the business owner of Tep's which is located just across the alley, I have some serious concerns as to how that will affect my established business.

The first concern is the availability of parking. I must admit that I am not knowledgeable about that particular religion and their practices. If indeed it is converted to a Mosque, how often will the parking lots that surround my business be occupied. Will it be daily? Will it be during my busiest times such as the lunch and dinner crowd? I realize that the parking lots that surround my business are city owned; however, many of my patrons are elderly and they rely on the east entrance. It is difficult for them to use the north entrance because of the step up to the curb. Also, the handicapped parking is located on the east side. If the parking lot is full it will definitely negatively affect my business.

The second concern is whether or not I will be able to obtain a Special Designated License (SDL) for community activities. In the past we have hosted a street dance during the rodeo weekend in June and served alcohol. Also, last August we had a beer tent for the Sizzlin' Summer Shindig. On the application for the SDL it asks whether or not there is a church within 150 feet of where alcohol will be served. I contacted the Nebraska Liquor Commission and questioned whether or not I would be able to obtain an SDL. Since my business was established in 2004, the response they gave me was that it "shouldn't cause any problems." I spoke with four people in three different departments and got the same response. I asked that someone issue a letter or memo that stated it would be no concern if I did make an application for an SDL. They refused and said that each case is looked at individually and it would be under consideration at the time of the license request. With that response I am concerned whether or not I would be able to obtain the SDL for these types of community activities.

In addressing these issues I would urge that the Conditional Use Permit be denied.

Sincerely,



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