

I am writing as someone who has rented a space which looks south over Cherry Alley in the 600 block for nearly a decade. I also am friendly with many other tenants and owners in this block who have similar or even better views which would potentially be impacted by the project.

I do not oppose this proposal per se, and have reached out to the developer with these same suggestions to lessen its impact on traffic in the alley, and the amount of light which penetrates to homes and businesses.

Not knowing if they have been incorporated into the design, I am also submitting these to you as a public comment.

While there has already been discussion of the impact of the proposal on Union Street, there has not been any on the impact on Cherry Alley and neighbors there.

There are 6-10 units, by my estimate, which look onto Cherry Alley, and which are potentially impacted by this proposal.

The parklike space to be occupied by the very tall and bulky addition has, my research indicates, been open and undeveloped for nearly 150 years. (An 1873 Beers map shows the area intended for the addition as open.)

For many generations, residents and merchants with windows onto Cherry Alley have thus enjoyed the views of nature and the sunlight that this open space provides.

The hotel as proposed would cast such spaces into darkness for a large portion of the day. The view of the parklike open space would be replaced by blank walls.

For example, one of my downstairs neighbors has a live-work space on the second floor of 609 Warren, facing the back, with big picture windows for her painting studio. (My girlfriend used to live in this same space.)

Not wishing to oppose the project, I believe that some of that darkness can be mitigated by:

- (A) Reducing the height of the addition by 12-15 feet;
- (B) Moving the addition so that it is not so flush with the alley, to allow a more light to penetrate into these homes and offices.

Mitigation (B) would also have the benefit of creating more space for vehicles making deliveries or garbage pickup from the hotel.

The space provided in the plans for this purpose seems highly inadequate — especially considering how narrow Hudson's alleys are.

Even without the hotel project there, this alley is frequently congested whenever a truck is present there.

Moving the building back from the alley by 1-2 truck widths would allow them to park off to the side, and for other traffic to get through.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sam Pratt