

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Cbutler620 <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2024 7:11 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Hearing on Gulf station at 212 Broadway

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To: Kimberly M. Wells, City Clerk, Members of the City Council's Committee on Licenses and Permits

From: Christine Butler, [REDACTED]

Date: 2/13/2024

I received a letter from the city regarding the hearing on 2/14/24 on the request for Gulf Gas Station to be issued a used car license. I received this notice around the 9th for a hearing schedule for the 14th. I reached out to neighbors who had similarly been caught off guard. This letter was the first we had heard of the request despite the fairly important impact it is likely to have on us.

The owner of the Gulf Station is fairly new and I personally have had no contact; therefore, I have no experience on which to base a sense of confidence that he will be a responsible as a neighbor and business owner. I know from my neighbors that there are legitimate concerns about the station currently.

For instance, there was no snow removal from the back of the gas station during snow events and the sidewalk was not kept free of litter despite the ongoing problem with rat infestation. Furthermore, cars in for repairs have been parked on MacArthur Street and sometimes serviced there. Additionally, the number of cars parked at the station now sometimes interferes with the ability to see oncoming traffic around the intersection of Broadway and MacArthur Street. Because cars often come at speed around that corner, it creates a safety issue. Having additional cars and potential buyers checking out those cars parked at the station is likely to make this even more of an issue. It also raises the question of where potential buyers will park to come see the available cars and where will they test drive them.

Permission to park 7 cars on the station lot and three inside as a practical matter means that the owner would be unable to move cars to be serviced or tested for inspection stickers; these car owners will have no where to park except on our street while waiting.

The reality is that the timing is terrible for MacArthur Street. We are already dealing with additional parked cars as a result of the Winter Hill school now using the school site on Bonair Street. There is no room for additional cars and it is unrealistic to think that a used car lot won't significantly increase the number of cars looking for parking.

I am asking that the request be heard at a later date by the full city council to provide some time for the Gulf station owner to provide further information to community members before a vote is taken. I would also ask that if the council plans to issue such license or permit that the number of cars be

limited and that reasonable conditions be imposed such as requirements of working on rat infestation and maintaining a reasonable level of cleanliness and safe access.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Chris Butler