
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

May 11, 2012

Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.
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Ald. Davis and Sen. Taylor will join in protest against proposed smoke shop

Alderman Joe Davis, Sr. will join in solidarity with state Sen. Lena Taylor and neighborhood residents during a Saturday afternoon Mother's Day weekend demonstration against a **proposed tobacco outlet** at 5903 N. 76th St.

The demonstration will take place tomorrow (Saturday, May 12) at 1 p.m. at N. 76th St. and W. Bobolink Ave.

Alderman Davis said the location was once a fast food establishment, but the use has been changed to allow for a smoke shop. He said neighborhood residents are concerned with the growing number of tobacco outlets in the N. 76th St. commercial corridor.

"This application will not only change the use of the building but will also change the environment of the surrounding community," Alderman Davis said. "To be frank, I am not supportive of tobacco outlets because I believe they provide products that cause serious and, in many cases, life-threatening health conditions in our community."

The community is concerned that they have not been able to express their concerns about the proposed location. **Charlene Taylor** of the Grantosa Heights Block Watch Club said she is concerned about the store's possible negative impact on area children. "Our children are impressionable and tempting them with negative influences such as tobacco is wrong," she said.

"Very simply, it is appropriate on the eve of Mother's Day to say clearly that we want our children to be the best they can be; to live out their God-given purpose," Ms. Taylor said. "Positive influences will help them achieve that purpose. There is nothing positive about having a tobacco store in our community."

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