



Wauwatosa Police Department

Interdepartmental Correspondence

DATE: January 28, 2026

TO: Planning Commission

FROM: Chief James MacGillis

SUBJECT: Application for 24-Hour Conditional Use Permit-7105 W. North Ave.

On January 27, 2026, I received a request from the Planning Commission to provide the Wauwatosa Police Department's perspective regarding the proposed conditional use permit to allow a 24-hour laundromat at 7105 W. North Avenue.

For comparison purposes, staff reviewed calls-for-service data for a 24-hour laundromat located at **6110 W. Bluemound Road**. Since January 1, 2023, that location has generated **88 calls for service**. These calls include reports of disorderly subjects, welfare checks (including vagrancy, overdose, and unhoused-person-related calls), thefts, citizen assists, and domestic violence incidents. This total also includes officer-initiated business checks prompted by the frequency of quality-of-life-related calls for service. **Approximately 60% of these calls occurred between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.**

Staff also reviewed historical data from a former laundromat that operated at **6707 W. North Avenue** during the 2010s. During the final three years of its operation (2015–2017), that location generated only **10 calls for service** over the three-year period. Notably, that business did not operate on a 24-hour basis.

In my initial draft report, I included the following site security plan recommendations, should the Planning Commission and Common Council approve the conditional use permit for 7105 W. North Avenue:

- Installation of a 24-hour security camera system covering all entrances and exits, as well as the interior of the business;
- Inclusion of a security plan detailing how cameras will be monitored and requiring random, on-site physical checks between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. by the owner or a designated representative; and
- Provision of a 24-hour emergency point of contact to the City.

I attended the Common Council meeting later that evening (January 27, 2026) and was present during the public comment portion related to this conditional use permit application. During that meeting, I learned that the owner/applicant for 7105 W. North Avenue also owns the 24-hour laundromat located at 6110 W. Bluemound Road. The Bluemound Road location has implemented all of the recommended security measures and utilizes Securitas as a contracted security provider for after-hours checks. Despite these measures, the calls for service data from that location do not support the applicant's assertions regarding the public safety benefits of granting a 24-hour conditional use permit.

Based on this information, the data does not demonstrate that the implementation of security measures alone is sufficient to mitigate the public safety and quality-of-life impacts associated with a 24-hour laundromat operation. I respectfully request the Planning Commission and the Common Council consider this information in their decision.