

From: [Ms Cooper](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_LH-Licensing](#)
Subject: License # 20180001270
Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2022 12:47:36 PM

RE: License 20180001270
Black Hart of St Paul
1415 University Ave W

I am writing today to petition **against** the additional patio service area at Black Hart.

First and foremost I want to let you know that we are patrons of Black Hart. We have a friend that participates in shows there and we will attend to watch them. I enjoy the atmosphere there and it's quite close to home (nearly in my backyard). It is a love/hate relationship, however.

We bought our house in 2002. Prior to the clean indoor air act we had no idea there was even a bar there. It was very quiet. When the smokers had to move outside we started to notice. Not too bad, just some loud chatter every so often (and a whole lot of smoke smell, luckily in recent years smokers have decreased). When the train went in, the lot opened to make room for the cars that could no longer park along university. We dreaded Wednesday and weekend nights. For years the previous owners had Wednesday drink deals and we had a rough go. The bedrooms in our house are on the second floor and most facing the direction of the bar's parking lot. We were often calling the bar to request they go out and break up the loud touch football games they had going on in the lot, or just otherwise loud behavior at 1am. Patrons turning on the car radios and blasting while finishing their nights hanging and partying in the lot. Several calls to the non-emergency police line when we'd get no response from the bar. I was truly thankful when the Wednesday night events stopped.

We have kids that need sleep every school night and I am a baker which means I'm off to work at 5am 6 days a week. We are still often up from 1am -2am while the bar is clearing and patrons are screaming in the lot but I've come to terms with an hour of noise. I can handle brief periods of unrest in my sleep. But if an event space is opened to hold **101-180 seats, that's 100-180 more voices**. And in the warmer months it will be nightly. Wes (the owner) explained the plan to build a lawn game area. When asked what would be done for noise mitigation, Wes stated that he was unsure. Please be sure, a 6ft fence is **not enough** to absorb the noise of even a dozen people. Not when alcohol, music, and games are present. I know he lives locally, but he does not live in the backyard of Black Hart like us and our fellow neighbors on the south side of Sherburne. The sound of dozens of empty bottles being dumped and broken into the canister in the alley in the early morning hours, and the bar clearing to loud goodbyes is enough already, please don't make the frustrations constant.

This block has many families that share windows with this alley. Noises carry quite loudly down the length of it as one side is just cement buildings that only serve to amplify and echo noises into our houses. As we have an old house, we don't have forced air vents. We cool our houses with open windows and fans. Most of my neighbors are the same.

Please consider the families that live here. We need sleep to educate ourselves, to work. To pay our bills and live healthy lives. Please consider our livelihood vs a business. If approved before sound mitigation is solved, it never will be. This business shares its space with the residences behind it. Consider us too. This business will not go under if this is not approved. The neighbors close by will lose sleep if not enough is done to mitigate.

Please before even considering approval; get a solid solution to the noise pollution that the families (many with young children and 1st shift jobs) will have to deal with. We are already suffering with the lack of parking for game days. Parking sometimes 4 blocks away just to get home after a day of work, or grocery shopping (1/2 the block does not have working garages and are 100% on street parking). This city just doesn't seem to be doing us any favors in this area.

Thank you for your time,
Sara Cooper
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St Paul, MN 55104