

From: [Gina McCabe](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#); [#CI-StPaul Ward2](#)
Subject: Vote NO on new rezoning ordinance
Date: Thursday, October 12, 2023 1:45:18 PM

To Whom it May Concern:

I am emailing to express my disappointment with the proposed new rezoning ordinance that was supposed to be voted on today. Most people in the City of St. Paul are not even aware of this proposal and the city is quickly trying to vote on it and pass it. How can the city do this without engaging its residents? This isn't going to help address the lack of affordable housing as most of the units will be market rate (only 20% of their units need to be affordable to people making 60% of the AMI, however most rental units in St. Paul are already affordable to people in this income level - the ordinance does nothing to provide deeply affordable housing to those making 30% of the AMI). It's just going to promote developers coming in and tearing down houses and putting up large multi-unit apartment buildings – this changes the entire fabric of the neighborhoods.

Also, allowing up to 50% of new units created to be eligible for short-term rentals (Air BnB or VRBO) is crazy and again a detriment to the neighborhoods. I'm sure most residents of St. Paul would be against this if they were aware of the proposal. Lastly, now a new amendment has been introduced that would increase the height limit of buildings by two feet (at the request of developers). What is the city thinking and doing?! This is an absolute disgrace – why not focus on getting the basics right (snow removal, road repair and paving, safety, actual affordable housing) instead of rezoning for developers.

I really hope the city will reconsider quickly pushing this ordinance through without ensuring engagement from St. Paul residents. Why not take the time and ensure this is the right thing for the city and its residents? Why is this so rushed and kept quiet from the public? Please do the right thing and vote no or table this ordinance and ensure residents are made aware of it and allowed ample time and opportunity to voice their input.

Regards,
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