

From: [Zakary Yudhishthu](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#); [#CI-StPaul.Ward3](#)
Subject: Letter in Support of Changing Rules for Consent Petitions
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 8:06:29 PM

Hello Councilmember Tolbert,

My name is Zak Yudhishthu. I'm a student at Macalester College and a board member on the Macalester-Groveland District Council. I'm writing today to testify in support of the Planning Commission's proposed changes to consent petitions (Ord. 22-33).

As I wrote about in a [recent article for the streets.mn site](#), the current petition requirements are unfairly burdensome and lead to bad housing outcomes. Because they focus on such a concentrated area, they do not allow the potential beneficiaries of a development to express their support for projects, a process that is both inefficient and undemocratic. Additionally, since this requirement was temporarily waived we have seen a reasonable amount of healthy, sustainable development, such as duplexes and local businesses.

I hope that you vote along with the planning commission to support this change to the zoning code and help encourage smart growth in our city. Thank you, councilmember!

Best,
Zak

Zak Yudhishthu (he/him)
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