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To: [Dermody, Bill \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#); dakotawicohan@gmail.com; [Frederick Melo](#); jim.walsh@startribune.com; robert.larsen@lowersioux.com; bill.rudnicki@shakopeedakota.org; peggy.flanagan@state.mn.us; jake.smith@state.mn.us
Subject: Hillcrest Golf Course Land is Sioux Land
Date: Monday, May 23, 2022 7:57:08 AM

My Grandfather was part Siksikaitsitapi or Blackfoot Canadian from Quebec. His family came to Saint Paul in the 1860's and we have been here ever since. When I was young I asked him, "Why are there no people who look like us here?" His response, "Well honey, there used to be. Before our family came from Canada. They (Sioux) used to live up on the hill." Then he would point to Hillcrest. Hillcrest is Native land. Give it back to ALL people, in the care of the Dakota, in the form of a park. When the public finds out that Native American artifacts were found nearby, and when more are found at Hillcrest, there will be an uproar. Return our land to all of us! Let the People care for this beautiful green space!

In 1992 Christina Harrison found a Dakota arrow point at dig site 21RA16.

I am a bleeding heart liberal who believes in the golden rule. I had the opportunity to go door to door and talk with residents. Here is what they said.

"The City Council doesn't listen to us. They'll do what they want. It doesn't matter what we say."

"I don't vote, because it doesn't matter, they will never listen to you."

To continue; when asked what they want to do with the land. Not a single person wants it built upon. Every single person said, "Why don't they make it a park?"

Some remarked, "Why is the City Council increasing our property taxes so we have to pay for people to come from out of state and live on the golf course?"

These are your voters. These are the people who will no longer vote for you if you mess up Hillcrest. Most also said, "Fix Hillcrest Center, leave the golf course alone."

This proposed development will bring us down, not lift us up. No one wants sheet metal buildings and more traffic. If you really cared about people you would make Hillcrest a park. If you actually did care, and did a mailing with boxes to check off about what to do with the land. 75% of Hillcrest residents, or more, would pick, park. I know I've spoken to them. I'm being generous with the 25% amount as well. Everyone knows that Saint Paul is just trying to pack human sardines into Hillcrest to increase the tax base. <https://www.sppa.com/about>

If you build on Hillcrest, I request that Bill Dermody, Mayor Carter, and the whole City Council, and all of the Saint Paul Port Authority, live on the land for five years to see what they have done. Do it, give your assurances to the people that the proposed development is so great that you will live there for five years.

Giving Hillcrest to the people in the form of a park IS equity. It is what we want. I'd prefer that it goes back to the Dakota, as they can care for the land best. They will plant native species of plants and care for the wetlands. They can recover any artifacts found. This is what I want my taxes to go to.

Hear me. Hear my words.

Sincerely,

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