

Eide, David (CI-StPaul)

From: Carissa Scanlan <scan0001@umn.edu>
Sent: Friday, August 5, 2022 12:07 PM
To: Eide, David (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Re: Pig's Eye Lake Hearing Testimony

Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

1487 Laurel Avenue
St. Paul, 55104

On Fri, Aug 5, 2022 at 11:57 AM Eide, David (CI-StPaul) <David.Eide@ci.stpaul.mn.us> wrote:

Hello Carissa,

What is your address for the public record?

Thank you,

David Eide
Zoning Inspector
Pronouns: he/him
Department of Safety and Inspections
[375 Jackson Street, Suite 220](#)
[Saint Paul, MN 55101](#)
P: 651-266-9088
david.eide@stpaul.gov
www.StPaul.gov



SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: Carissa Scanlan <scan0001@umn.edu>
Sent: Thursday, August 4, 2022 7:44 PM
To: *CI-StPaul_DSI-ZoningReview <DSI-ZoningReview@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Pig's Eye Lake Hearing Testimony

To whom it may concern:

I am sorry that I cannot be present at the hearing. Following please find my testimony.

I have loved Pig's Eye Lake and Park for many years. The problem has always been how to access the park and lake. But this last year I have been canoeing on the lake, cross country skiing and walking in the park usually once or twice a week throughout all of the seasons. It is the place that I love the most in the Twin Cities area. It is a hidden treasure.

I am very concerned about the islands. I see no need for them. I don't see that the lake is shrinking or eroding. The size of the lake changes based on the time of year and rain. The lake and surrounding wetlands and forests are full of plants, animals and birds.

This major construction project is a disruption to nature right now.

I have a concern about the material used for the islands. I think we are adding more pollution to the lake.

It is well known that the area is polluted so we are adding "sand" (and whatever else) on top of the polluted material in the lake. So the pollution underneath is not being addressed. And when the "sand" is added to the lake I can see that they are mixing the bottom of the lake with the new sand. There does not seem to be anything that separates the new sand from spreading in the lake and the well known polluted bottom from being disturbed and also mixing into the new supposedly clean island materials.

I have also personally observed that trash from the workers had been left and mixed into the island material. I saw this from a canoe in the lake.

This is currently a very shallow lake and it is becoming more shallow and less usable for boating and recreation.

The plan is for 7 islands and the first island is getting bigger and bigger. I am personally heartbroken that this lake and natural wetland area appears to be being filled in. I thought that this was a protected wetland area.

There is no one who I have met enjoying this area and lake who wants this plan. We have not had the opportunity to have any feedback about this project. This is why we have had to pay to have this appeal. It is very sad to me that we have gotten to this point. No one seems to care.

The goal is to clean, care for and enjoy this area and to me this is another dumping project that happens to cost millions of taxpayer dollars.

I think this is not healthy for our park and lake. I see that there is no oversight or regulation of this major construction project in the biggest St. Paul lake. Any other construction project would have oversight and regulation by the city. Those of us who love this area have had no opportunity to speak about our concerns.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Thank you,

Carissa Scanlan

St. Paul, Minnesota

Eide, David (CI-StPaul)

From: daniel sannel <satsangwithdaniel@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 5, 2022 2:32 PM
To: Eide, David (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Re: Pigs Eye Lake testimony

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

1487 laurel Ave Saint Paul, Mn 55104

On Fri, Aug 5, 2022 at 12:00 PM Eide, David (CI-StPaul) <David.Eide@ci.stpaul.mn.us> wrote:

Hello Daniel,

What is your address for the public record?

Thank you,

David Eide
Zoning Inspector
Pronouns: he/him
Department of Safety and Inspections
[375 Jackson Street, Suite 220](#)
[Saint Paul, MN 55101](#)
P: 651-266-9088
david.eide@stpaul.gov
www.StPaul.gov



SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: daniel sannel <satsangwithdaniel@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:24 PM

To: *CI-StPaul_DSI-ZoningReview <DSI-ZoningReview@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Subject: Fwd: Pigs Eye Lake testimony

To whom this may concern:

Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the hearing on Monday. Attached to this email is my testimony.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **daniel sannel** <satsangwithdaniel@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Aug 4, 2022 at 8:13 PM

Subject: Concerns about Pigs Eye Lake

To: <satsangwithdaniel@gmail.com>

My wife and I have been frequently hiking at Pigs Eye Lake and Park for the last few years because of its natural beauty and proximity to the metro area. After hiking there, we became concerned how the lake and park has been polluted by the surrounding businesses. We started to meet people who were advocating for the park by creating a marked entrance, creating a Facebook page, and picking up trash. After sometime, it felt like there was some progress of creating awareness of the beauty of Pigs Eye Lake and the damage that has been caused by the pollution.

I am very concerned about the Pigs Eye Lake Island Building Project and how it is going to affect the lake, I have come to love. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Saint Paul District report they are doing this project because of the low-quality habitat and abundant wildlife. If Pigs Eye lake was a low quality habitat, it would not have an abundant wildlife population in the first place! I am concerned that the city is not addressing the pollution that is in the land and water at Pigs Eye before starting this project. It really seems like there is a hidden agenda to spend over 15 million dollars on this project to help habitat without addressing the pollution that has been there for many years in the first place. They are taking material that is probably contaminated dredge from the Mississippi and putting in a lake that is already polluted. This does not make sense to me! I do not understand how this is going to restore a habitat that already has an abundant wildlife. If the idea is to restore Pigs Eye Lake, we need to find ways to remove the pollution that is there and the environment will naturally restore itself. Plus, this project is being done without a permit, which to me means, there is regulations and laws that are not being followed which could affect this environment for many years to come in the future.

Thank you,
Daniel Sannel

Eide, David (CI-StPaul)

From: Jean Wulterkens <pjwulterkens@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 5:29 PM
To: *CI-StPaul_DSI-ZoningReview
Subject: Public comment for appeal hearing re Pig's Eye Lake Zoning Decision

Please add the following to public comment re:

The Appeal of a decision made by the Zoning Administrator pertaining to a Department of Natural Resources project that involves the discharge of 80 million gallons of pollutant into Pig's Eye Lake.

Comments:

My father came of age during the Great Depression and lived through World War II. He was part of what we now call the "silent generation," but he knew when not to be silent.

Don't act so helpless was his response whenever one of his children threw up our hands in despair because this or that problem seemed beyond our capacity to overcome. **Figure it out !** he'd say. **Don't take the easy way out.**

There is nothing more pathetic, we learned, than to act helpless in the face of something you know should **not** be as it is.

St. Paul has been acting helpless longer than many of those currently making decisions on behalf of the city have been on this earth.

For decades, helplessly, those who led the city allowed 3M and other polluters to dump toxic chemicals into a vast and pristine lake and wetland.

Helplessly, city leaders acted as if the ongoing pollution were not happening.

If someone pointed it out, they decided it was not in their power to do something---to do anything to stop it. So nothing was done.

Pig's Eye Lake is **now one of, if not the largest**, contaminated site in the nation. It exists within the city of St. Paul. It belongs to us. It is **our** problem.

But helplessly, city leaders today would like to pretend the pollution at Pig's Eye Lake is someone else's problem.

The city of St. Paul has rules regarding prohibited work, and those rules exist, on paper.

The city has authority over Pig's Eye Lake, and that authority has been ordained, on paper.

Site plans are required when work is one. They are required, on paper. State statutes apply, on paper. City regulations spell out what should happen, theoretically, when work is proposed.

But as we are discovering in this fragile democracy of ours, our beloved institutions, rules of conduct, ethical guidelines, norms of conduct---all exist only insofar as we choose to follow them.

If we choose not to follow them, if we abdicate and say, essentially, "that's not my job," then ---like the pollution that contaminated Pig's Eye Lake in the first place---our fancy talk about site plans and prohibited work and regulations---they all mean little or nothing.

St. Paul needs to take ownership of what happens at Pig's Eye Lake.

We need to stop acting so helpless.

Jean Wulterkens
413 Totem Road
St. Paul, MN 55119