

**977 5TH ST EAST SAINT PAUL MN 55106**

**TELL: = 612 806 5721 OR 206 453 8886**



**DARUL ULOOM**

**Tax ID:46-5467400**

**8/30/2016**

**Darul Uloom Islamic Center**

**977 5<sup>th</sup> St. E SAINT PAUL, MN 55106, Phone: 206 453 8886 OR 612 644 6489**

October 4, 2016

City of St. Paul

Re: Right of Way Assessment, 967 Fifth Street E.

Dear Sir/Madam,

In June of 2014, Darul Uloom Islamic Center purchased the vacant properties at 967 5<sup>th</sup> Street E. in the Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood of St. Paul. Our community has worked very hard to improve the property and make effective use of all the buildings. However, at this time the school building and the residence are not useable due to the need for multiple repairs and renovations. We regularly use the parking lot and old church building for worship, while all the other buildings remain vacant and unusable. The full assessment as proposed poses a major economic hardship for us.

Therefore, we ask that the 420 foot street frontage be reduced by 263 feet to a total of 157 feet, which represents the school and the residence. The 300 foot alley frontage should be reduced by 163 feet to a total of 137 feet, which represents the school building. These reductions represent the estimated frontages occupied by the unusable buildings. We will work hard to return these building to full use, but any additional costs at this time are a major hardship for our community.

Our community is committed to making a home in St. Paul and continuing to improve the property and engage with the many residents and businesses to create a better community for all. This request represents a concession that will help to ensure continuing improvement in our partnership with the community and the City. Thank you for your consideration.

*On other hand We have also become aware that a recent Minnesota Supreme Court case may have impacted the way in which the City of St. Paul assesses religious organizations for the public right of way. We also ask that the city consider our appeal on this basis.*

Sincerely,

Osman Egal  
Director