

Mr.'s Khaliq, Stark, Ms's Brendmoen, Lantry,

As a citizen of St. Paul, I do not support your votes to privatize Como and Phalen Golf Courses to solve the problem the city created re-doing Highland and not getting it right.

You are penalizing the courses and the staffs who are doing well, to solve the problem the city created... very ironic, very sad.

"We cannot continue to subsidize the golf courses at the expense of other rec programs and other city needs." I believe is your quote...Really?

Millions for light rail, streets turned into bike lanes/routes, St Paul Saints baseball stadiums, on and on...

I am an average citizen, who likes to play golf, and still does, at St. Paul City courses, knows the pro's at all three sites, knows the staff, is happy to spend my money at same.

Your focus on gigantic "Social Issue projects" whether light rail or bike lanes instead of cars, or St. Paul Saints fails to keep in perspective what the average citizen also wishes to do, recreate on beautiful golf courses that have been in the city since the 30's 40's and 50's.

I believe this could be a tipping point with many other citizens who like me, feel you have lost your way, supporting big money interests with social engineering goals, i.e. trains and bikes, at the expense of the citizens and money needed for everyday peoples wishes, recreation on golf courses that you are now abandoning. Privatization always sounds good...

I have lived in other cities, I have seen privatization of Chicago Public Golf Courses by Kemper, and other private concerns... guess what? Costs to play went up, and quality of courses went down. Once these companies get your money, they do what they want, and they walk away when the contract is up, and courses are in worse shape than when they signed on.

The next City Council elections. Average citizens will then have an opportunity to remove leaders like you from positions of political power when you no longer represent those every day citizens. I look forward to do what I can to remove you from your council positions. This is my tipping point. You no longer represent me as a St. Paul Citizen.

Dan Murray  
Ward 3