

From: [Jason Etten](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Lamplighter Lounge license conditions
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 3:02:26 PM

St. Paul City Council Members,

Thank you for considering license conditions for the Lamplighter Lounge. I grew up and still live in the South East corner of Roseville very near the intersection of Rice and Larpentuer. My family frequents the businesses (except the Lamplighter!) in the area. I also serve on the Roseville City Council.

The Lamplighter Lounge has had a negative effect on the health and welfare of this community for decades. The two murders in the last three years are enough of a reason to work towards cleaning up the business but the ongoing, night after night crime, drug use, fighting and other issues show a much greater pattern that is unacceptable moving forward.

I appreciate the proposed conditions that have been set forth. The catch is that the safety and security procedures found in the conditions were already in place through a handshake agreement with the ownership the night Nia Black was murdered last June. The procedures are in place right now as fights and drug use continue affecting neighboring businesses and people living in the community.

What will change if you formally place these conditions on the license? The conditions that are laid out would seem fine had they not already been shown to be ineffective in stopping persistent crime and a murder. The conditions do not lay out the trigger mechanism(s) for the Lamplighter actually losing their license. Without an enforcement process clearly outlined it is possible the City of St. Paul could have legal trouble when trying to enforce the conditions because of the gray area of no clear trigger(s). To lose their license do they need to have a certain number of police calls, not be able to turn over surveillance video once, not walk the parking lot frequently enough as observed by someone from the City of St. Paul? Could they have their license suspended for certain violations for a period of time or is the only enforcement tool a complete loss of license? Is the loss of license permanent for that owner, ownership group, their close business associates, the specific address? Can it be reapplied for in a year or some given time?

Thank you again for working towards more concrete actions to remove the dangerous conditions in our community created by the Lamplighter Lounge. Those of us living in the area and working together with our neighbors to improve the Rice and Larpentuer community would love to have this establishment go away. I hope you will consider some of my thoughts on a clear enforcement process that the community and the ownership understand moving forward.

Thank you,
Jason

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