

## Moore, Shari (CI-StPaul)

---

**From:** Hugh Dillon <HDillon@oakridgefinancial.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 2:59 PM  
**To:** \*CI-StPaul\_Contact-Council  
**Cc:** 'lynzio@comcast.net'  
**Subject:** Please Reverse the BZA's decision to grant variances for Linwood School

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

I am a resident of the neighborhood that will be effected by your decision on whether or not to reverse the variances for Linwood School. I live ½ block west of the school at 1058 Fairmount Avenue. I have lived at this address since 1993.

I first wish to emphasize that I am fully behind improving the school for the children and staff. I've gone to meetings inside the school that concern this issue, and have seen that there are very real needs that should be addressed. The school should be made 100% ADA compliant / handicap accessible, be expanded in a reasonable way to allow for more space to include a cafeteria separate from the gym and improve the heating and cooling system for a better learning environment. I am also, (as are my neighbors), in favor of some reasonable expansion of the classrooms at this location. I enjoy seeing the children coming and going from the school, and the sounds of them playing outside at recess.

The purposed design that requires these major variances would expand the school to a very large building. This is the smallest elementary campus in the entire SPPS district. The property is unsuitable for this scope of building expansion. The green space on the North side of the building would be reduced by 40%, the open space would no longer be a traditional playground instead there will be a much smaller strip of area for play that runs along Fairmount Avenue. This area that would be reduced is the primary place that these children have to play, explore and learn to socialize outside of the classroom.

I strongly urge you to visit this location and view the area of open space along Fairmount as the children play during the school day. Imagine that area reduced by 40% and the population of children increased significantly. Have the experts show you the true scale of this purposed building and you will gain a better understanding of the issue. A wide yellow tape showing the purposed building footprint on the Fairmount Ave. open space would open many eyes to the objection this neighborhood has to this project as designed.

Please reverse the BZA's decision and encourage the SPPS to create a reasonable plan that will benefit the children and our neighborhood for many years to come.


Sincerely,

Hugh J. Dillon  
1058 Fairmount Avenue



**Hugh Dillon**  
First Vice President – Investments

Private Client Group  
701 Xenia Ave. S. Suite 100  
Golden Valley, MN 55416

Direct  763-923-2239

Toll Free 800-231-8364

Fax  763-923-2280

 [ndillon@oakridgefinancial.com](mailto:ndillon@oakridgefinancial.com)