

Georgina M. Chinchilla Gonzalez
Gregory J. Egan IV
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U.S.A.

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RECEIVED

FEB 27 2017

COUNCILMEMBER
grace.egan@yahoo.com

DAI THAO

February 23, 2017

VIA U.S. MAIL:

Mr. Dai Thao
Ward 1 City Councilperson
15 W Kellogg Blvd. #310
St. Paul, MN 55102

Re: Ratification of Assessment Hearing: Residential Lead Pipe Replacement

Dear Mr. Thao:

My wife and I reside in Ward 1 and recently had our lead water service line replaced. We received notice of a City Council hearing to be convened for purpose of approving the assessment for City financing of work completed by the private contractor we retained. Georgina and I both volunteer at Rondo Library teaching ESL to adult immigrants on Wednesday nights. As such, we do not intend to attend the hearing scheduled for March 15, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. (Public Hearing Notice enclosed herein). We are submitting this written statement to you and your staff in lieu of oral statements at the hearing.

Georgina and I purchased the home at 1009 Marshall Ave. in July of last year. As we are trying to start a family and are well versed in the effects of lead poisoning during pregnancy or for infants and small children, who are particularly vulnerable, we recognized the urgency in undertaking the replacement. This was not an expense that we had planned for; the sellers did not affirmatively disclose the lead pipes, and we did not think to ask.

We represent a middle class household; I have a modest income as a state employee. Georgina is not currently in the workforce, as she pursues graduate studies to empower her to work in the nonprofit sector. Having one income has made household expenses tight, and we will have student loans to pay back—both hers and mine. Given the public service fields we have both chosen, our earning power is not likely to increase significantly over the proposed twenty year period of the loan. We are counting on the financing.

If Georgina or I can provide additional written information prior to the hearing, we are happy to do so. My hope is that this written submission is sufficient to procure ratification of the assessment. If in your judgement, that appears unlikely, please call me. If need be we can make arrangements for one or both of us to attend the hearing.

Thank you very much for your time. I look forward to working with you. If you deem it appropriate and helpful to our cause, please feel free to disseminate this written submission to the other Council members.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Greg Egan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Greg Egan

Enclosure