

Dear President Lantry,

I am writing in support of the zoning study and 1 year moratorium on development along Grand Avenue between Cretin and Fairview. As you are aware, this neighborhood has long been the scene of contention between residents, the University of St. Thomas, and students. I feel that we all need to work together so that the needs/interests of all can be addressed. I know that we will never make everybody 100% happy, but hopefully we can work toward compromises that most can agree were arrived at through a fair process. Often neighbors feel that St. Thomas will always get whatever it wants because of its size, influence, and money. Lately, our neighborhood has been invaded by a private dorm developer with deep pockets, a well-developed sense of entitlement, and a willingness to litigate. We homeowners feel overwhelmed; we do not have the resources of the UST or the private developers. The majority of our resources are tied up in our homes' property value. Many of us have lived in our homes for decades and have been good, stable, contributing citizens of St. Paul. Is there a place for us at the table? Appropriate zoning laws protect the rights of all citizens and businesses and promote livability, fairness, and stability. I know that once a study is completed, there is no guarantee that I will like all the results, but I feel that I will be able to accept them if they have been determined through a fair and careful process. I hope you will agree that the future of our neighborhood deserves careful study and that you will vote to support the zoning study and 1 year moratorium on Grand Avenue.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wacker
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