

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

Benjamin Werner <ben@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Fri 6/4/2021 2:51 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

Dear Council Member Dai Thao,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the repeal of the SAFE Housing tenant protections ordinance (Ord 21:21: Chapter 193 of the Legislative Code related to Tenant Protection).

As you know, the majority of St. Paul residents are renters. The numbers are especially high for households of color; according to the American Community Survey in 2019, 82% of Black residents in St. Paul rent their homes, as do 64% of Native American residents, 62% of Latino residents, and 58% of Asian residents. This is one reason why, as community leaders have known and expressed for decades, protections for renters are unequivocally an issue of racial justice.

In Judge Magnuson's preliminary injunction order, he asserts that "concern [about racial disparities] is addressed by the Fair Housing Act, which prohibits race-based housing discrimination." This statement presents a dangerously limited conception of how institutional racism works to destabilize housing for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities in our city. Any decision the City Council makes on this issue - whether to protect renters' rights or leave them to fend for themselves - will be disproportionately felt by communities of color, especially Black households; to ignore that fact is deeply disingenuous and abandons St. Paul's BIPOC renters.

In passing this ordinance, the City Council took a bold step in the right direction - but St. Paul residents were also promised this was only the first step on a longer journey toward housing equity for everyone in our city. Instead, the City Council is prepared to take a step backwards, to betray over half the city's residents under pressure from predatory corporate landlords. The protections offered by this ordinance have countless precedents across the nation. This piece of legislation, while deeply meaningful to renters in St. Paul, is not outlandish or revolutionary. It is a slate of proven, court-tested, common-sense protections that lay the groundwork for renters to put down roots and flourish in our communities.

These communities are worth fighting for. As Council Member Jalali said in the first reading of the effort to repeal this ordinance, "None of us can back down from our responsibility to continue fighting for renters in any avenue, even as that battle presents new fronts."

A vote to repeal the SAFE Housing ordinance is abandoning our city's renters at this pivotal moment. Don't be bullied by corporate and predatory landlords who will oppose and litigate any protections for tenants. Oppose the repeal of the ordinance, and help ensure that St. Paul lives up to its name as "the most livable city in America".

Sincerely,

opposition to protections repeal

Caitlin Magistad <c.magistad@gmail.com>

Wed 6/23/2021 11:26 AM

To: Thao, Dai (CI-StPaul) <dai.thao@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Xiong, Mai Chong (CI-StPaul) <mai.chong.xiong@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Good morning,

I was incredibly disappointed to see that Councilmember Thao is a sponsor to repeal the St. Paul SAFE Housing tenant protection ordinances. I am writing to share my strong support for these ordinances and the community members who fought for them long before any elected official pretended to care about the City's power to protect its renters.

I urge you to vigorously defend the policies you all passed a year ago. The Council acknowledged last year that the likelihood of being sued was high, and yet you seemed courageous and proceeded to pass these policies, unanimously. Now, the very thing you all said would happen has happened, and you're backing down?

I'll be honest that it feels like a total waste of time to voice my concerns as a constituent based on how this and many other City processes play out, but because I and the majority of our City are renters, I'm still reaching out to ask you to change your mind on the repeal.

Thank you,

Caitlin Magistad
1425 Ashland Ave

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

Claudia Hochstein <cehoch@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Wed 6/23/2021 10:53 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Claudia Hochstein
487 Dayton Ave Apt 3 Saint Paul, MN 55102-2781
cehoch@gmail.com

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

Cory Cole <corycole48@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Mon 6/7/2021 12:15 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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Sincerely,

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

[Della Zurick <dellazurick@everyactionadvocacy.com>](mailto:dellazurick@everyactionadvocacy.com)

Wed 6/23/2021 10:24 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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Dear Council Member Dai Thao,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the repeal of the SAFE Housing tenant protections ordinance (Ord 21:21: Chapter 193 of the Legislative Code related to Tenant Protection).

In passing this ordinance, the City Council enacted a slate of proven, court-tested, common-sense protections that lay the groundwork for renters to put down roots and flourish in our communities.

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Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Della Zurick
1577 Ashland Ave Saint Paul, MN 55104-6719
dellazurick@gmail.com

Renters Belong in St. Paul - Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

[Elisabeth Wurtmann <e271828182845@everyactionadvocacy.com>](mailto:e271828182845@everyactionadvocacy.com)

Wed 6/23/2021 10:05 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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Dear Council Member Dai Thao,

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A vote to repeal the SAFE Housing ordinance is abandoning our city's renters at this pivotal moment. Protect this important legislation and help ensure that St. Paul lives up to its name as "the most livable city in America".

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Elisabeth Wurtmann
1555 Selby Ave Apt 417 Saint Paul, MN 55104-6598
e271828182845@gmail.com

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

Emma Kippley-Ogman <emmaalic@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Thu 6/3/2021 8:00 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

Dear Council Member Dai Thao,

I'm writing to express my staunch opposition to the proposed repeal of the SAFE Housing tenant protections ordinance (Ord 21-21: Chapter 193 of the Legislative Code related to Tenant Protection).

As you know, the majority of St. Paul residents are renters. The numbers are especially high for households of color; according to the American Community Survey in 2019, 82% of Black residents of St. Paul rent their homes, as do 64% of Indigenous residents, 62% of Latinx residents, and 58% of Asian residents. This is one reason why, as community leaders have known and expressed for decades, protections for renters are unequivocally an issue of racial justice.

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In passing this ordinance, the City Council took a bold step in the right direction - but St. Paul residents were also promised this was only the first step on a longer journey toward housing equity for everyone in our city. Instead, the City Council is prepared to take a step backwards, to betray over half the city's residents under pressure from predatory corporate landlords. The protections offered by this ordinance have countless precedents across the nation. This piece of legislation, while deeply meaningful to renters in St. Paul, is not outlandish or revolutionary. It is a slate of precedented, common-sense protections that lay the groundwork for renters to put down roots and flourish in their communities.

These communities are worth fighting for. As Council Member Jalali said in the first reading of the effort to repeal this ordinance, "None of us can back down from our responsibility to continue fighting for renters in any avenue, even as that battle presents new fronts." Please, don't abandon our city's renters at this pivotal moment. Don't stand by as your constituents lose the safety and stability they've already won. Oppose the repeal of the ordinance, and help ensure that St. Paul lives up to its name as "the most livable city in America".

Sincerely,

Safe Tenant Housing

Jan Lageson <janlageson@gmail.com>

Sat 6/19/2021 8:54 AM

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Dear Council Member,

Rushing to repeal the Safe Tenant Protections is wrong for many reasons. First, it will make the unfortunate primary ruling by Judge Magnuson more important. Second, repealing this ordinance does not guarantee that you won't be in the same place with the same judge on a new ordinance. Third it will not save money, the landlords will sue again. Fourth, it will not get us protections any sooner.

Minneapolis passed legislation like this, currently in front of the circuit court. Table the repeal until the circuit court rules. Ask the judge to stay the lawsuit until then. This will give you, Council Members & the community time to develop a joint proposal that will avoid tenant screening but include other protections.

Thank you for your attention.

Janet Dunnwald Lageson
1372 Keston St.
St. Paul, MN 55108
651-472-2914

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

[Karen J Larson <karenjcomic@everyactionadvocacy.com>](mailto:karenjcomic@everyactionadvocacy.com)

Wed 6/23/2021 10:22 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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A vote to repeal the SAFE Housing ordinance is abandoning our city's renters at this pivotal moment. Don't be bullied by corporate and predatory landlords who will oppose and litigate any protections for tenants. Oppose the repeal of the ordinance, and delay the vote on the repeal until the case against Minneapolis' similar measures is decided. We need a clear path forward to protecting tenants rights, and repealing right now would be premature and dangerous. Protect this important legislation and help ensure that St. Paul lives up to its name as "the most livable city in America".

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Karen J Larson
707 Thomas Ave Saint Paul, MN 55104-2746
karenjcomic@gmail.com

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

Laura Askelin <Laura.Askelin@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Wed 6/9/2021 4:42 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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Dear Council Member Dai Thao,

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Sincerely,

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

Mk Nguyen <mklnguyen@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Wed 6/23/2021 10:52 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Mk Nguyen
1032 Blair Ave Saint Paul, MN 55104-2101
mklnguyen@gmail.com

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

Patrice Tetta <ptetta@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Wed 6/23/2021 9:50 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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Dear Council Member Dai Thao,

I am in vehement opposition to the repeal of the SAFE Housing tenant protections ordinance (Ord 21:21: Chapter 193 of the Legislative Code related to Tenant Protection) and fervently hope that you will NOT vote to undo these important protections for city residents who can least afford to live here.

As you know, the majority of St. Paul residents are renters. The numbers are especially high for households of color; according to the American Community Survey in 2019, 82% of Black residents in St. Paul rent their homes, as do 64% of Native American residents, 62% of Latino residents, and 58% of Asian residents. This is one reason why, as community leaders have known and expressed for decades, protections for renters are unequivocally an issue of racial justice.

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Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Patrice Tetta
1211 Summit Ave Saint Paul, MN 55105-2650
ptetta@stoptit.biz

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

SAM Greene <sam@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Fri 6/11/2021 10:42 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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Sincerely,

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

Stacia Madsen <stacia.madsen@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Wed 6/23/2021 10:33 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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In Judge Magnuson's preliminary injunction order, he asserts that "concern [about racial disparities] is addressed by the Fair Housing Act, which prohibits race-based housing discrimination." This statement presents a dangerously limited conception of how institutional racism works to destabilize housing for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities in our city. Any decision the City Council makes on this issue - whether to protect renters' rights or leave them to fend for themselves - will be disproportionately felt by communities of color, especially Black households; to ignore that fact is deeply disingenuous and abandons St. Paul's BIPOC renters.

In passing this ordinance, the City Council took a bold step in the right direction - but St. Paul residents were also promised this was only the first step on a longer journey toward housing equity for everyone in our city. Instead, the City Council is prepared to take a step backwards, to betray over half the city's residents under pressure from predatory corporate landlords. The protections offered by this ordinance have countless precedents across the nation. This piece of legislation, while deeply meaningful to renters in St. Paul, is not outlandish or revolutionary. It is a slate of proven, court-tested, common-sense protections that lay the groundwork for renters to put down roots and flourish in our communities.

These communities are worth fighting for. As Council Member Jalali said in the first reading of the effort to repeal this ordinance, "None of us can back down from our responsibility to continue fighting for renters in any avenue, even as that battle presents new fronts."

A vote to repeal the SAFE Housing ordinance is abandoning our city's renters at this pivotal moment. Don't be bullied by corporate and predatory landlords who will oppose and litigate any protections for tenants. Oppose the repeal of the ordinance, and delay the vote on the repeal until the case against Minneapolis' similar measures is decided. We need a clear path forward to protecting tenants rights, and repealing right now would be premature and dangerous. Protect this important legislation and help ensure that St. Paul lives up to its name as "the most livable city in America".

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Stacia Madsen
808 Aurora Ave Saint Paul, MN 55104-4815
stacia.madsen@gmail.com

Renters Belong in St. Paul! Don't Repeal the SAFE Housing Tenant Protections Ordinance

Thai Phan quang <thaiphyphanquang@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Wed 6/23/2021 10:55 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

Dear Council Member Dai Thao,

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Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Thai Phan quang
1032 Blair Ave Saint Paul, MN 55104-2101
thaiphyphanquang@gmail.com

We need strong renters protection-

thomas bliss <contact@everyactionadvocacy.com>

Tue 6/8/2021 5:47 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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