

# PAYNE PHALEN DISTRICT FIVE PLANNING COUNCIL

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November 6, 2015

To: Chair Richard Kramer & Members of the Charter Commission

From: Payne-Phalen District Five Planning Council, Leslie McMurray Executive Director



**RE: Proposed Charter Amendment Sec. 17.07. - On-sale liquor licenses.**

Dear Chair Kramer and Members of the Charter Commission:

The Payne-Phalen District Five Planning Council (District Five) supports an amendment of the City's Charter to remove restaurant on-sale liquor licenses from the City's Ward and Citywide limits.

**Proposed Charter Amendment (Highlighted in blue.)**

**Sec. 17.07. - On-sale liquor licenses.**

*The issuance and location of on-sale intoxicating liquor licenses shall be subject to the provisions of this section; provided that this shall not apply to or include on-sale wine licenses or on-sale liquor licenses issued to restaurants.*

District Five's Community Planning & Economic Development (CPED) met on October 6, 2015 with the Department of Safety and Inspection (DSI) at the Arlington Hills Community Center. CPED voted its unanimous support for the proposed amendments that re-define "restaurant" businesses and which remove caps on limits of on-sale liquor licenses issued to restaurants. The matter was approved on October 27<sup>th</sup> Board Consent Agenda of the District Five Board of Directors.

District Five's support for this proposed Charter Amendment is paired with a recommendation for the revised Ordinance definition of "restaurant" in the City's Legislative Code section 409.02. The DSI proposed amended definition of "restaurants" offers a clearer definition of business purpose while supporting efficient enforcement of community standards of public safety, health and livability.

In Payne-Phalen, we have witnessed ongoing revitalization sparked by restaurant business investments on Payne Avenue and Arcade. Payne Avenue received the 2015 "Munch Madness" award by the Pioneer Press in response to restaurant investments that offer renewed cultural and economic vitality and create destination businesses with a positive ripple effect across our neighborhoods. This Charter Amendment that removes the cap on limits of on-sale liquor licenses issued to restaurants fosters desired economic development across St. Paul.

Please contact our office for any further information about District Five's position and support.  
Thank you.

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