

Subject: 812 Cook
From: B McCullough (bmccullough92@yahoo.com)
To: bmccullough92@yahoo.com;
Date: Saturday, June 20, 2015 8:47 AM

Mr. Magner,

I'm sending this e-mail in regard to the property at 812 Cook Ave Saint Paul MN. As a person who lives in Saint Paul and works on Arcade Street the condition of some of the problem properties really angers me. In the last 8 years 812 has been turned over to one investor after another who has treated it as slum. These slum lords have no interest in the community and I believe have just used this property as a tax write off at the expense of a struggling community.

I believe the evidence for this is clear. Numerous incidences of flooding. Two of which created a safety issue for nearby residences and required first responders as well as the Saint Paul water department. Most recently a fire that has exposed dangerous asbestos to the neighborhood. This issue still has not been dealt with. General disrepair that has left the residence unsafe as well as a haven for vermin. I have seen rats exit the garage on more than one occasion. In addition there seems to be a growing number of homeless/transient/criminals that use this residence to "squat"

As a tax payer I find this unacceptable. I choose to live in Saint Paul because of the cities commitment to building healthy and safe communities. I hate to see the East Side turn into Detroit.

I would urge the city to remove this property, hopefully replacing it with a structure/green space that reflects the positive changes being made to the East Side.

Thank you
Elizabeth McCullough
1531 Chamber Street
Saint Paul MN 55106

ALAN W. GRIFFIN

776 Magnolia Ave. E.
St. Paul, MN 55106
651 771-0673

June 22, 2015

Mr. Steve Magner
Manager of Code Enforcement
City of St. Paul
Suite 220
375 Jackson St
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Building located at 812 COOK AVE. E.

Dear Mr. Magner:

Over the past few years, this building has become a nuisance/hazard to the neighborhood: general disrepair, flooded basement, fire of somewhat mysterious origin that spread verified lead and asbestos contaminants to at least one adjacent property.

Because of its condition, the house seemingly has only been able to attract tenants who, in my opinion, have behaved in what I would classify as an unruly, pugnacious manner. At times, I was reluctant to even drive past it. I certainly never would have walked past it during evening and night time hours.

In general, this neighborhood appears to have more than its share of problems. More than a few times there have been mobs of youth behaving poorly: loudly occupying the middle of the street; fighting; throwing stones; jumping up and down on the roof and hood of one of my cars (doing thousands of dollars worth of damage).

On a very recent occasion, at nighttime, that car's replacement was struck by a bullet (during what sounded like a firefight, in which several high capacity firearms magazines were emptied) causing another thousand dollars plus amount of damage. On a neighboring block, a crack house was discovered. Then there is the nearby house where a man was murdered because of drug debt dispute.

My financial loss is one thing. Of more concern are my wife (who lives here with me), my children, my grand children (who like to spend days and nights here) and my neighbors.

In a general sense, I understand the implications of living in what some would characterize as an impoverished neighborhood that suffers certain societal ills (I am far from wealthy myself). As well, I understand the burdens carried by our city government and the restraints placed upon that government by national and state constitutions and laws and budgets, and by city charter, laws/regulations and budget.

That being said, I strongly urge you to forthrightly continue to pursue the course of action you and the City Council have undertaken regarding the repair or removal of the house mentioned above because the owner(s) seemingly has little interest (or, perhaps, lacks the wherewithal) in taking care of business wherein this property is concerned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan W. Griffin". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Alan W. Griffin

6/19/15

Gerald A Heiss 810 COOK Ave ST PAUL

I HAVE owned and lived here for 27 year

For The last 10 years The house 810 COOK STREET has had several owners /renters THAT were all problematic

- 1) Numerous Cops have been at this Address for Fighting, drug dealing, loud music. AFTER hours ACTIVITY AND vehicles coming and going. This has been a nuisance Property for many years
- 2) The lack of maintenance TO The Property is ALSO a Concern. The Trees Are overmature and The Branches continue TO Fall in my yard. Worried every storm They will land on my house
- 3) The roots From The trees are entering my foundation and frequently have TO dig These roots out. Some roots as big as 8" diameter hinder me while mowing my yard
- 4) The Fire THAT happened 4/29/15 could have very well BURNT my Place down if wind conditions were right.

Best/~~A~~ Thank You For your Time and Consideration in This matter, does need TO be dealt with

June 22, 2015

Mr. Steve Magner
Manager of Code Enforcement
City of St. Paul
Suite 220
375 Jackson Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: house located at 812 Cook Avenue East

Dear Mr. Magner:

For the last 10 years the above named address has been an expense to the city and a danger to the community. The tenants have been those who have no regard for property or community.

What things have happened there? Here is a listing of some that I am aware of:

- loud obnoxious gatherings at all times of the day and night
- garbage scattered all over the property (which then attract vermin)
- cruelty to a dog (swinging the dog up in the air at the end of a chain)
- poor judgment in lighting a barbeque grill right next to the building with flames flying high

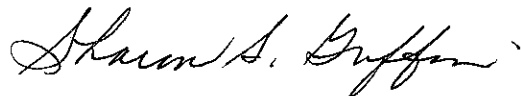
Then there are events that happened when the building was not occupied:

- water pouring out onto neighboring properties and down the alley. This happened the day before Thanksgiving in 2014. We had ice forming from all this water creating another safety situation.
- fire of unknown origin causing more hazard. It has been verified that asbestos and lead burned during this fire.

How many more dangerous events need to happen before the city takes speedy action? It seems apparent to me that the owners of this property have no interest in keeping it in livable condition or screening potential tenants to find responsible adults.

And finally, I feel the city has not demonstrated good stewardship of my tax dollars. I think there is a saying—"once burned, twice cautious". It is time for action. Please take action to remove this building and all its dangerous elements from our community and make this space GREEN.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon S. Griffin".

Sharon S. Griffin

Property: 812 Cook Ave E

6 / 21 /2015

Attn: Legislative Hearing Officer

I am a permanent resident and have owned my home for over 20 years, and for the past 10 years plus, 812 Cook ave e has had many issues that has caused my neighborhood to be unsafe, there has been many police calls to this address and it has gone from a nusance to a problem property.

Such as the day a tenant took their dog up to arcade and had it on a leash and spun it around 360 % and slammed it down to the street. Their has been prostitution, drug dealings, more than I can count. And if you need to reach the currant owner, for get it as they do not live in this state but instead you get management and they don't do much but will evict them and put in new trouble.

And of late, the fire that almost destroyed other homes and businesses.

Also, they have a tree that is due to fall on the neighbors home to the west, and if we have a good storm could fall and destroy some ones home. But one would have to fight to find the owner, Their care for the land meaning the grass is left unchecked and weeds grow and get spread around the neighborhood.

One more thing, they have had 2 floods in the basement and I know the foundation is unsafe, and since I have worked for land lords in my past, I have seen and know unsafe conditions.

For all that has come out of this house, and there has been so much in the means of problems like child abuse, look at the records over the years you will see that it has been a problem for 10 plus years.

I work in a church with an old boiler and this home like at my church has asbestos siding, and if the house was catch fire again would mean a greater loss to all who live around it, so if there was to be a repair, that would need to go.

To remove the home would be a wise choice and benefit the other homes around it but it is up to you to decide.

I encourage you to weigh the cost, and concider the neighborhood and its bennifit.

Thank You for hearing me.

Mr Christopher B Arendt

Mr. Christopher B. Arendt

651-772-3102

To whom it may concern,

6-21-15

This letter is regarding the house on 812 Cook. I have lived in the same neighborhood for the last 38 years and for at least the last ten years ~~is~~ I have seen this house become more and more of a problem. All the junk, trash and overgrown weeds have been a huge eye sore for this neighborhood. The residents on this alley have put up with it long enough. In the last few years I have finally witnessed other homes that were not taken care of and neglected by the residents & the landlords being torn down. I wrongly feel this home is long over due to be torn down. Please consider the positive impact it will have on our neighborhood.

Hopeful Resident,

Patrick J Welle
799 E LANSON AVE.
ST. PAUL, MN 55106

