

**From:** Elizabeth Karre [mailto:elizabethkarre@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 12, 2015 9:03 AM  
**To:** Thao, Dai (CI-StPaul); \*CI-StPaul\_Contact-Council  
**Subject:** Trump

Dear Mr. Thao and council members,

I sympathize with Mr. Thao's repudiation of Donald Trump's ridiculous and offensive statements, but I think the city council has no right (legally or morally) to make him feel unwelcome in St. Paul, whatever that means. Perhaps it is just a statement of disapproval and the city council actually frequently passes these kinds of resolutions expressing approval and disapproval of various people and events—if so, what a waste of time and government resources! If this city council doesn't already have a long list of individuals and groups it has condemned, would you now have to waste time telling everyone else who is racist, etc., that they "aren't welcome" lest someone think the city council agrees with such ideas otherwise? Please don't!

Mr. Thao said, "We won't stand by to let him try to divide our community." I fear nothing divides people more than being told they aren't adult enough to hear ideas and decide for themselves whether those ideas are worthy of their attention, let alone their support. The American people have already largely rejected Trump—the actual percentage people who claim to support him is quite small and some of those people might even change their minds when it was time to make a serious decision, not just contribute to a spectacle through a poll.

I'd like the city council to focus its efforts on making St. Paul a place where refugees and immigrants can be successful because, like Mr. Thao, I think immigrants are a vital part of our city.

Let each council member's own statements of what they are for, and better yet their actions, be a testament to their vision for our city, state, and country. Let Trump's statements speak for themselves and while they remain speech and not action, let them be debated in free speech in the public. Don't dignify them with government actions nor waste government resources.

Thank you for your work for St. Paul,

Elizabeth Karre  
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