

January 31, 2011

City of St Paul
Dept of Safety & Inspections
RE: Scusi Patio License

We request additional licensing to operate an outdoor dining area with the sale of beer/wine at Scusi, 1806 St Clair Ave., St Paul. We will be placing seven 4-top tables outside underneath our awning. They will be segregated from the public space via a series of bollards & stanchions. Please see attached site-plan.

Tables and chairs will be stowed inside when not in use. Please do not hesitate to call with any questions.

Regards,



Luke R. Shimp - CFO
Molto, Inc dba/Scusi



RESTAURANT COMPANY
SINCE 1993



March 28, 2011

Molto, Inc. dba Scusi
1806 St. Clair Ave
St. Paul, MN 55105



To Whom It May Concern:

As we begin to approach warmer weather in Minnesota, we are excited to allow our guests the ability to enjoy the short spring and summer seasons. We have recently petitioned the City of St. Paul for a sidewalk café at our newest location, Scusi. Our small Italian restaurant opened this past November 2010 and we have received great compliments from our guests, including our Macalester-Groveland neighbors.

We understand the ultimate goal of the petition is to obtain 100% neighborhood support. We have submitted many signatures for the City's review and we continue to attempt contact of the remaining residents we have been unable to reach. Since November, we have enlisted the majority of our staff (employees, managers and owners) to help us communicate our vision of a small sidewalk café. More than 15 people have gone out into the neighborhood 25 times as of March 25nd. I plan on going out again this evening as we want to show that we are truly engaged in this neighborhood and this process.

Many people work various hours of the day and may not be home when we try to reach them. We have selected various hours to approach homes at the most convenient times for the homeowners: Weekdays – early afternoons – this is not too early to disrupt late sleepers or stay-at-home parents with little ones. Weekdays – early evenings – this time period gave us an opportunity to make contact as some neighbors were just coming home from work, but before we disturbed the dinner hour. Weekends – late morning and early afternoon – people enjoy sleeping in on Saturday mornings and many people may be performing household chores during this time. We did ask all of our employees to ensure that they were not attempting contact at any time after dark.

When we first started our petition, we left a short note explaining our purpose for stopping by. After struggling to contact people, we created a small postcard and mailed it to all the addresses on the list given to us by the City (enclosed). We wanted to let our neighbors know to be expecting us. This was extremely successful. Immediately upon receiving the postcard, the neighbors we were able to reach, knew what we were going to discuss. Since the postcard, we have continued to attempt contact through approaching neighbors residences and making phone calls with what few phone numbers we were able to identify.

In addition to these efforts, we have recently purchased the vacant lot on the southwest corner of Fairview & St. Clair. We are going to be asking the City for permission to turn this lot into a parking lot for our guests. This is a key point that we addressed with our neighbors at a meeting at Scusi on Saturday, December 18, 2010. Those who were not able to attend, we are continuing to tell them about our intentions with the lot. This vacant lot will potentially help cut down the foot traffic and noise level that some of our neighbors have expressed concerns about. We also have begun creation on interior signs that we will post inside the store that state "Please respect the neighbors and keep the volume low when going to your cars".

We are extremely proud to be amidst such an amazing community. This winter, we were asked to be the judges for the local Snow Creations contest and it was awesome! We intend to participate in as many of these events as possible to help support the Mac-Grove neighborhood.

Respectfully,
Stephanie Shimp
Owner
612-916-0166

January 7, 2011

Dear Neighbor,

I am writing this letter to ask for your help. I represent Scusi, 1806 Saint Clair Avenue, an Italian themed restaurant operated by the Blue Plate Restaurant Company. We are in the process of applying for a patio license with the city of Saint Paul and are looking for the support of our community in helping us secure this license.

Scusi currently operates 7 days a week with operating hours of: Monday-Thursday, 4pm-10pm, Friday, 4pm-11pm, Saturday, 9am-11pm, and Sunday, 9am-9pm. Our hope is to secure a license that would allow us to have a sidewalk patio area to serve our guests our full menu during our hours of operation. We feel this would help to enhance the experience of all our diners and our neighborhood during Minnesota's precious short summer season.

Some of our neighbors had expressed concern over the increase in street parking since we opened in November. We are pleased to inform you that we recently purchased the empty lot on the SW corner of Saint Clair and Fairview to help alleviate this issue. We will be opening the lot this spring to all of the businesses in this area.

We are proud to be part of the Mac-Grove neighborhood and look forward to serving our community for years to come. Your support of a sidewalk patio at Scusi would be greatly appreciated. As always, we welcome any input or suggestions from you on how we can best contribute to our great neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Meg Downes
General Manager
651-789-7007