



District 10 Como Community Council

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May 17, 2017

To: Council Member Dai Thao, Council Member Russ Stark, Council Member Amy Brendmoen
From: Michael Kuchta, on behalf of the Como Community Council Board

Re: Temporary Family Health Care Dwelling Units

The Board of the Como Community Council voted on May 16 to recommend that you vote **not** to opt out of state legislation allowing Temporary Family Health Care Dwelling Units in Saint Paul.

Board members reviewed the staff report listing objections to the state legislation. The majority of our Board believes the benefits of providing friends and family members another option to care for sick loved ones outweighs the potential negatives. Discussion noted the rigorous requirements these dwelling units must meet, their short-term nature, and the reality that many city lots could not accommodate them anyway, making their potential impact minimal. Our Board encourages Saint Paul to seek additional revenue from the Legislature to compensate local jurisdictions for the “unfunded mandate” costs that the legislation imposes.

More generally, Board members expressed the opinion that we, as a community, must be increasingly imaginative and flexible as we adapt to an aging population and the increasingly expensive treatment and housing options that are now available. They urge the City Council not to opt out but, instead, take advantage of the flexibility of the legislation to craft a local policy that allows these units within the confines of an urban environment.

Thank you for your consideration.