

From: [April Mootz](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Vote No 21-6
Date: Monday, March 1, 2021 10:31:52 AM

Hello, the city council must vote NO to the dangerous ordinance 21-6.

As you may be aware, it would make "any meeting, demonstration, picket line, rally, or gathering of five (5) or more persons for a common purpose as a result of prior planning in or upon any street, sidewalk or other public grounds" a public assembly requiring a permit and subject to a whole slew of new restrictions.

This ordinance opens the door to police having even more discretionary power to be violent towards Black and brown people. It also takes away protesters' ability to protect themselves from police violence.

All this, without holding police accountable AT ALL for the ways that police often use disproportionate and uncalled-for force against protesters, kettle and arrest people without issuing dispersal warnings, shoot rubber bullets into crowds, and spray people with pepper spray and tear gas.

Restrictions on free speech and public assembly are not what St. Paul needs right now or ever. I urge you to vote NO on Ordinance 21-6

April