

**Please**

**Leave 6<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Alone!**

## Ten reasons why the Saint Paul City Council should leave 6<sup>th</sup> Street alone:

1. Lowertown residents and businesses can't afford to lose 22 on-street parking spaces (and the City 30-40K in annual meter revenue) when already, over 600 nearby off-street spaces are slated for removal.
2. In front of a wine bar, tequila bar and sports bar this wider, one block, sidewalk "promenade" will sit unused for "dining" much of the year.
3. Ultimately, smokers will be using it more than diners.
4. Councilmember Thune & Mayor Coleman campaigned for office against 'Big Tobacco'.
5. Housing in Lowertown is growing. On-street parking is needed more than ever.
6. 'Planners' and yes-people keep saying downtown residents should ditch their cars for mass transit when the fact is, they rarely use it themselves.
7. Of the two 6<sup>th</sup> Street property owners here, the one most supporting this sidewalk plan will benefit the most from lost on-street parking because he owns a parking ramp a ½ block up the street.
8. This is same owner who hired, of all people, Councilmember Thune's best friend, former staffer and past political campaign advisor (including 2011) as his lobbyist. How many 'conflicts of interest' are there here? 1, 2... 3?
9. For many months, the public and various volunteer councils and commissions were told this sidewalk plan originated within Saint Paul 'Public Works'. The fact is it originated from the Mayor's office (Heritage Preservation Commission's January 2013 meeting).

And finally, because this plan, while originally well intended, was not properly analyzed, the Saint Paul City Council should not be expected to cover its shortcomings.