



We object to the application for License #20100003283 for a full on sale Liquor license at 1806 St. Clair.

Parking on Berkeley Ave with Scusi open (Wheeler to Fairview) starts with employee parking in the early afternoon and continues through the evening with constant Scusi customer parking. The public parking lot at the southwest corner of Fairview and St. Clair is constantly full or near capacity from lunch to late evening (10:00-11:00p.m. or later). The restaurant and the separate Bar have changed our block from a quiet neighborhood street to a parking lot for Blue Plate corporation employees and customers.

No other business, over many decades in this neighborhood has had the constant negative impact that Scusi has had on the surrounding neighborhood. Blue Plate has been unresponsive in the past to complaints concerning the dumping of glass at anytime, and the parking issues. Promises before they even opened concerning the dumping of glass turned into a dismissive attitude and passing the responsibility down the line to a subordinate until one just gives up and drops the issue.

The neighbors gave permission for a patio service that served beer and wine, I remember that it was emphasized that this is what the permission for patio service allowed, Blue Plate should need updated signatures for the upgrade in license. The subtraction of patio service would help alleviate parking in the surrounding neighborhood streets.

The Restaurant at 1806 St. Clair before Scusi was a upscale white tablecloth place, when Scusi opened they said they needed an overflow area for customers waiting for their reservations, where the patrons could have a glass of wine or an appetizer before dinner. Blue Plate built out a separate walled off Bar. This separate area has morphed into a bar with typical bar promotions, drinks and appetizers with unlimited opportunity for Happy Hours early, late etc.

David Burley co-owner of Blue Plate was quoted on the " St. Paul Strong" website as saying he just would like to serve a Martini in his Restaurant. The Bar at 1806 St. Clair is not a restaurant, you enter the bar area without needing to ever enter or see the restaurant, the bar is completely walled off from the restaurant area. The bar is operated as a separate entity with special pricing and emphasis on drinks and appetizers, which are promoted on social media. Are the entrees similarly discounted?

Was the intent of the new liquor ordinance to shoehorn bars into the Mac-Groveland Neighborhood? If it looks like a bar, acts like a bar... it is a bar. How long will it be before the Groveland Tap gets a liquor license? Once the new Bar is allowed what guarantees are there that in the future the Bar will not expand or change it's marketing, maybe to a college crowd (like Tiffany's on Ford Pkwy for instance). Are there any teeth in the new liquor ordinance that prevents situations such as changing the bar into a completely different venue from happening or even watchdogs and enforces aspects of the new ordinance such as food consumption with the ordering of alcohol? The bar area should be redesigned as a restaurant, it might as well be a separate business as it stands now.

To have a breakfast, lunch and supper restaurant, and a Full Bar at 1806 St. Clair will inundate our street with traffic, noise and the parking of cars from the new restaurant an bar. Changing the essence of our neighborhood from a quiet block to a busy street where you can not run a quick errand without losing your parking area near your own home.

For all intents and purposes 1806 St. Clair is two separate businesses, one a restaurant, the other a bar. The liquor license upgrade was sold to the public as being for restaurants to compete, not to create bars in areas that have been non-bar areas since the 1930's.

Thank You.

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Sheffer, Vicki (CI-StPaul)

From: Wendy Ruble <wendyruble@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2016 9:46 AM
To: *CI-StPaul_LH-Licensing
Cc: Kantner, Libby (CI-StPaul); Liz Boyer; #CI-StPaul_Ward3
Subject: Application for license St. Clair

Hi,

I am a near resident of this site/business and i have the following concerns:

Density of alcohol related businesses:

the immediate neighborhood is already heavily oriented toward alcohol related business. Increasing the hours and service of alcohol in this neighborhood does not support health community, family values. By this plan, I can only guess Scusi wasn't making enough money for them....so they are expanding their business in the only way they can imagine- increased alcohol consumption. Their business plan will just increase the density and use of alcohol on an already saturated 2 block area

Business issues:

The Blue Plat owners previously misrepresented their intentions/information in the past. They were adamant that Scusi would not offer late "happy hours" which were a neighborhood concern- they did. They stated at a public hearing that their parking lot was going to provide 30 parking spaces- that was an exaggeration of 50%- their lot provides 20 parking spots.

Neighbor/resident relations:

Their late night tap has been very hard on home owners in the immediate area. It is fair to describe their relationship with the one remaining live-in home owner is terrible. His property is devalued by their business: late night hours, history of people vomiting in his yard, late night noise, public sex in vehicles on the street.

Noise:

There is already a noise issue with transient, late night noise with the Groveland Tap. closes and employees at Scusi and the Groveland Tap make their way home after closing. This is a mixed use block. I am a resident whose daily life- including full-time employment with a 7am start time- including Saturdays. My life and work depends on good sleep.

Sidewalk cafe:

i understand current hours require sidewalk use to end @ 9pm. They have consistently allowed customers to stay later than 9pm at both Scusi and The Groveland Tap. Based on their current practice, 10pm hours would likely keep customers on the side walk later. I strongly oppose increasing their late night sidewalk hours.

Parking:

our neighborhood is already stressed with parking issues. Driveways are regularly blocked, congestion makes driving/pedestrian traffic dangerous. Clearly, the motivation in changing their business is to increase business. That would put further stress on an already congested parking plan.

Additionally, there are already, regular pedestrian traffic injuries, some including drunk drivers in the immediate neighborhood and city as well. This is a concern every community is concerned about. Again,

increasing late night drinking hours puts this neighborhood under increased exposure to alcohol related incidents.

Thanks for your time and attention, Wendy Ruble 1781 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul, MN