

**From:** Richard Berowski [mailto:bethebike@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 3, 2019 11:00 PM  
**To:** Graybar, Matthew (CI-StPaul) <Matthew.Graybar@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
**Cc:** dancarlson2929@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Tangletown Garage Variance Appeal; File #19-081671

Tangletown Garage Variance Appeal; File #19-081671

6 October 2019

I am a neighbor on the alley to the south of the proposed garage.

I have to ask myself if building codes are a mere suggestion or “a nice to have”? I thought building codes were guidelines that have evolved to be the outward presentation of the right and pleasing way to design a living city environment.

If I design a building do I envision my dream and then see if it fits in the building code? Or should I use my creativity to design a space that can exist within the building codes? This is not a small parcel of land asking for a variance to make a new building space useful. This is a very large building asking to be even larger.

We do not need more exceptions to the rule. The Pandora’s Box of granting a foot and a half variance today, does that lead to justification of a foot and three quarters tomorrow and a two foot variance after that?

I hate complaining about a neighbor who has a dream and desires to build their perfect space. I want to live in harmony with our neighbors because we share an alley and community. I also do not want to live with a structure on the common alley that is currently designed to be almost as big as my house.

Richard M Berowski  
1789 Princeton Ave.

**From:** Andy Valentine [mailto:aholiday@outlook.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 29, 2019 8:24 PM  
**To:** Graybar, Matthew (CI-StPaul) <Matthew.Graybar@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
**Subject:** Re: File# 19-093472 public hearing notice - city council appeal

Matthew,

I wish to submit our support for variance awarded for new garage as was submitted.

This garage will be constructed in a backyard, off an alleyway. It's design follows the aesthetic of the house, will permit sheltered off street parking and provide, a constructive, creative space for the family to use for years to come. The opposing opinion of remodeled basement, with implication of asbestos

abatement as a better option, is overly simplistic. The necessary remodeling costs to permit the activities outlined by Dan Bustos in a remodeled basement would be cost prohibitive and would not include the cost of a garage.

The BZA approved the variance 5 - 1, this was NOT a 3 - 3 decision. The findings listed were clear and concise.

A permanent structure in perpetual view of an adjacent neighbor's backyard is more common than not in St. Paul. As no garage exists today, any garage constructed on the personal property of Dan and Julie Bustos would present change difficult for some to accept. But accept it they must, out of respect of another's personal choice on how they make their home fit their families needs.

Regardless of home location, any household within certain radius of 1780 Goodrich Ave has the right to support or oppose a variance request. My wife and I chose not to file appeal on original hearing as we had no concerns then. We are concerned now that continued silence will not count as support for the variance. We SUPPORT the variance as was awarded to the Bustos family.

Andy Valentine  
Kari Solem  
124 Wheeler St. S.

From: Trisha Menke [mailto:tlgraeve@hotmail.com]  
Sent: Tuesday, November 5, 2019 11:46 AM  
To: Graybar, Matthew (CI-StPaul) <Matthew.Graybar@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
Subject: Garage variance in MacGroveland.

Dear Mr. Graybar:

My name is Trisha Menke and we live at 1795 Goodrich across the street from Julie and Dan who is requesting a variance in order to build a new garage. It's my understanding they are requesting a 4 inch increase in width and 16 inches of added height.

I am writing to support their request and our hope is they are able to proceed with their building plans without further delay.

Best,

Trisha Menke  
1795 Goodrich Ave St. Paul, MN

From: Henry Jerome [mailto:henry.jerome@spps.org]  
Sent: Tuesday, November 5, 2019 11:17 AM  
To: Graybar, Matthew (CI-StPaul) <Matthew.Graybar@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
Subject: 1780 Goodrich garage variance

Dear Mr. Graybar, On the agenda for the City Council Public Hearing on Wednesday November 6 there's an appeal to a BZA decision to grant a garage variance to Dan Bustos of 1780 Goodrich Ave. My wife and I cannot attend this hearing as we are out of town, but could we attend, we would not support the granting of the variance. The proposed garage will sit across the alley from our property at 145 South Wheeler St. The footprint of this proposed garage is larger than that of our own house and with a second floor will be essentially larger than our house and rivaling the size of almost any house on the block. I believe Mr. Bustos may build a garage with a footprint of 1120 sq ft without variance, though we wish he wouldn't do so. Perhaps some compromise involving a smaller footprint and less height could be arrived at. What is proposed is quite out of proportion and not in keeping with the balance of the neighborhood. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Sincerely, Catherine Lay and Henry Jerome, 145 South Wheeler St., St. Paul 55105

From: Laura Coleman <[laurabcoleman@me.com](mailto:laurabcoleman@me.com)>  
Sent: Tuesday, November 5, 2019 4:02 PM  
To: [Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us)  
Cc: [pattie.kelley@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:pattie.kelley@ci.stpaul.mn.us)  
Subject: 1780 Goodrich - File #19-081671 Tangletown Bustos Garage Variance

Dear Councilman Tolbert,

I'm writing to express my support for my neighbors Dan Carlson and Barbara Pilling, who are petitioning to rescind the recent garage variance granted to 1780 Goodrich Avenue. I'm unable to attend tomorrow night's hearing and council meeting, but I share their concern that the neighbors in adjacent houses didn't receive sufficient notification of the plans or time to share their input, and that the proposed three-car, two-story garage and art studio is disproportionately large for the lot and for the scale of the neighborhood. We look forward to a new design that will resolve these concerns, and satisfy the needs of homeowners and the concerns of long-time residents of the Tangletown neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Laura Billings Coleman  
129 S. Wheeler Street