

From: Kristina [<mailto:beans08197@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2018 3:50 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1
Subject: Positive feedback for The Alamo bar

To whom it may concern,
My name is Kristina Paul. I'm 33 years old and am from South Saint Paul. I have been a regular at the Alamo for the last 10 years. I cannot count the amount of good memories made and positive events that I have attended at this bar. We have thrown numerous fundraisers for the community that always have a great turn out with no problems. It's very unfortunate that in the later hours there has been some issues but I'm truly hoping this problem can be addressed without it being shut down. We are family at this bar and do not want to bring problems to the community. We are good people that love this city and take pride in giving back. Please consider the impact this bar has to many who attend it on a regular basis. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kristina Paul

From: Hoke, Jeremy (MDE) [<mailto:jeremy.hoke@state.mn.us>]
Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2018 2:42 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1
Subject: El Alamo Bar/ Positive Feed back

I have been a patron of the Alamo for some time.
The issue is not with the bar, but the teenagers/young adults that hang out in the area!
I for one, have never had an issue at El Alamo. Inside or Out.
The benefits for friends/family that have passed. Raising money for youth sports. Many different celebrations held there.
We, the community need you to take that into consideration.
All the good things that people do at this location, for the benefit of the community need to be mentioned.
Thanks for your time.

Jeremy Hoke

From: Bahieh Hartshorn [<mailto:bahiehh@wsco.org>]
Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2018 1:40 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1
Cc: Xiong, Mai Chong (CI-StPaul); Monica Bravo
Subject: El Alamo Bar LLC., upward departure - Revocation of License

Good Afternoon Councilmember Thao,

Last night the West Side came together to ask for the revocation of the of the liquor license of El Alamo Bar LLC. As promised, attached is the letter I read last evening written by Milissa Diaz, Owner of El Burrito Mercado, a business stakeholder on the West Side.

Thank you for your continuous support of the West Side community, do we have your support in voting for CM Noecker's recommendation of an upward departure to revoke the liquor license of El Alamo, LLC? Thank you in advance.

Peace,

Bahieh

Bahieh Hartshorn

West Side Community Organization

WSCO District 3 Planning Council

Community Organizer

209 Page Street

St. Paul, MN 55107

Office: (651)293-1708

Cell: (605)366-0146

wSCO.org

Milissa Silva-Diaz

El Burrito Mercado

175 Cesar Chavez Street

St. Paul, MN 55107

651-227-2192

milissa@elburritomercado.com

Dear City of Saint Paul Council Members,

This letter is in regards to shootings over the past months, and years at El Alamo Cantina. I am primary owner of El Burrito Mercado, our family owned business has been here since 1979, it is now operated by myself, my sister, and my niece.

We are writing to express our immense concern for the continued acts of violence and human endangerment at or near Alamo. Our family are huge supporters of entrepreneurs and small business of all types, we wish to them all succeed. However, we also that believe that with being an owner, especially in a residential community, comes a deep responsibility for the well being of the customers and for our community as a whole. We try and practice what we preach, and we hope our neighboring business' do the same, and this is why I write this letter, when there are several incidents of shootings at a business, something is definitely not being addressed, and that is a choice.

All choices have consequences, as a business owner, you and only you have the exclusive right to establish the kind of climate you create in your own business- it's your own business, your vision, your marketing, your brand, and we can blame nobody for it being anything we don't want it to be. We can't control the people that come in to our business, we can't control how people behave, however, we can respond by controlling the environment and having a zero tolerance for certain unwanted behaviors. There is simply no excuse for multiple shootings at a business in our neighborhood! After the last shooting extreme measures could have been taken to change the environment in and around the bar. There are so many ways to achieve this, to name a few examples: hire a business consultant, change your image, work with WSCO, NEDA, St Paul Police, come to meetings and get involved in the community.

This is our community, this is our customers, these are our family and friends in this neighborhood, and it concerns and affects us all!

This may not be the best example but it's what comes to mind. Our business got fined recently because of a broken cooler that we thought had been repaired because it was working days prior to the inspection, but when the inspector came, the temp was off again. In spite of demonstrating paid invoices, we will be fined. And for this a fine seems an appropriate

consequence. We get it and food safety is important to us, we are diligent on these issues, if food doesn't hold certain temps after a period of time it's a risk that food goes bad and a person can get sick, it's part of the risk in our industry. As additional result of this, we threw away 100lb of food AND will pay a fine and already lost on the paid invoices for the cooler. It kinda boggles my mind, that a business that has continuous shootings where human lives are at risk of violence and death? My point of sharing this is to implore that you please make sure the consequence be fitting. Every business has varying level of risks, but one can only remain in business by minimizing risks and implementing safe and secure practices.

I trust that you all have the best interest of human lives in mind, and thus your decision will be one that reflects accountability for business to operate in a way that our community and visitors feel safe. We have nothing personal against the owner of Alamo, we don't know him/her, however we do expect a fair and serious consequence as a result from the most recent and repeat shooting at this neighborhood business.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Milissa Silva-Diaz

El Burrito Mercado, Owner/CEO

milissa@elburritomercado.com

651-227-2192

Suzanne Silva,

El Burrito Mercado, Owner/Vice President

Analita Silva,

El Burrito Mercado, Owner/Treasurer

From: Vicki Garcia [<mailto:regalknorf@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2018 5:45 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward6

Subject: El Alamo Positive Feedback

Greetings my name is Vicki Garcia, I am a long time resident of St Paul's Westside. I have had the pleasure of participating and witness to wonderful fundraisers El Alamo has provided our community!

El Alamo has allowed me to be a part of positive impacts for children, including school necessities and activities empowering healthy development!

Also El Alamo has provided a great space for those in need including fundraisers for sick and less fortunate. I'm proud to be a customer and feel El Alamo has been under attack by individuals who are not customers and do not contribute to any fundraisers involved.

I will continue to support El Alamo because of the positivity and unity it brings to our community! My family and friends also agree, as long time residents we are in favor of keeping El Alamo open for many years to come with progress and success!

Thankyou for your time,
Vicki Garcia

From: Craig Willford [<mailto:craigw@wsco.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 4:40 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward7 <Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Thank you for keeping the West Side safe

Councilmember Prince,

I am a resident of the West Side and I wanted to say thank you for your support in keeping the West Side neighborhood safe from gun violence. On the West Side we support and encourage small businesses but in the case of El Alamo, it had become more of a safety liability than a local business. I know the final vote on the double departure is this Wednesday and I wanted to say in advance of that how much our community appreciates your work to keep the city safe.

--

Craig Willford

West Side Community Organization 
WSCO District 3 Planning Council
Baker Center | 209 Page Street West
Saint Paul, MN, 55107
wsco.org

From: Joe Smith [<mailto:6fifty11lc@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2018 1:40 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1; #CI-StPaul_Ward2; #CI-StPaul_Ward3; #CI-StPaul_Ward4; #CI-StPaul_Ward5; #CI-StPaul_Ward6; #CI-StPaul_Ward7
Subject: El Alamo Bar/Positive Feedback

Hello City Council....

I know there was a city council meeting last night but unfortunately I was not able to make it because I coach for the West Side Boosters and we had practice at the same time. I am 41 years old and I am BORN, RAISED, WORK, LIVE, VOLUNTEER, and COACH on the West Side til this day!! So I feel I have a little input and knowledge about my community and what goes on..

I work at the Alamo and also am a customer of the Alamo before I worked there. I am just as frustrated and upset as anyone with some of the recent issues that have happened by the Alamo along with other incidents that are happening all over the West Side. I in no way condone it in my neighborhood. In saying that I will also say it is upsetting and frustrating that a few incidents or people can make outside people judge the bar or customers of the bar. I can tell you one thing for sure if you think closing the Alamo will solve the problems on the West Side they won't!!! It will just move up the street or down the street or over a street. The Alamo is a GREAT bar with all kinds of customers from different walks of life. We have lawyers, teachers, city workers, community leaders, janitors, servers, parents, and anyone else you can think of as customers just like any other bar does. I have been to ALL THE meetings before yesterdays with the city and community and the Alamo and listen to people that work at WSCO AND THE POLICE DEPT. ETC talk about how they all wanted to come together and come up with a solution. Guess what? It was all talk and none of them never followed through. We never were contacted from WSCO or the police with proactive ways to help not only the bar but the community in general. I hope you do not decide to close the bar down. I think that is pretty extreme based on the types of violations it

is being violated for. I'm not saying they are right but cmon is it enough to close it down? The WHOLE CITY has issues. I don't think I need to name other places but I'm sure your aware!

The Alamo doesn't get near the credit it deserves for all the positive things it has done or continues to do!!! The Alamo holds countless fundraisers for the West Side Booster youth teams for uniforms and for them to have a season. Countless benefits to help people raise money for funerals and/or medical bills... It holds drives to collect school supplies for the youth as well as coat drives. So you cannot let the few negative things take away from all the positive. There is two sides to every story,

I hope you all look at the bigger picture and do not shut the Alamo down!!

--

Joe Smith

WEST SIDE BORN AND RAISED!

From: grandmapammy1127 <grandmapammy1127@aol.com>

To: ward2 <ward2@ci.stpaulmn.us>

Sent: Mon, Feb 12, 2018 11:41 am

Subject: Alamo positivity

I am writing this letter to hopefully give you some personal insight into my experiences at the Alamo Bar, I have been employed ther for 10 years. I am 58 years old. I spend 5 to 6 nights a week there working. I came to the westside from a white middle class neighborhood where I raised my family. I had no idea about any other life styles or walks of life. I have made the westside my home. I have learned many other ways of living and cultures that I had no idea existed in my sheltered world. I have met so many people in the last 10 years who have forever changed my life.

While there have been a few negative things that have affected the Alamo many more positives have been gained. I have worked with DSI, WESTCO , St Paul PD and yourself to fix problems no one has helped to date. I certainly do not want bad things going on and have put all my energies into correcting them. To close the Alamo does not fix any of the problems the westside has been experiencing. The same people still live in the neighborhood and will continue to do so. Mo arrests have ever been made on the few incidents we have had even though video and names have been provided to the SPPD. The housing on Robert and Cesear Chavez Street has had two shootings in the last 3 months. Do we close the housing project down. Of course not.

The westside is a very unique neighborhood of which I am glad to have been a part of and hope to continue to do so. We have operated approximately 3600 days with a few negative incidents. Pick up a paper because this is going on in every neighborhood throughout the City of St Paul.

In closing I am asking that you reconsider closing the Alamo down and working with us to identify problems. We cannot do it on our own. These people are my family and I care about each and everyone of them.

From: Kareem Smith [<mailto:kareems@wsco.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 11:48 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward6
Subject: El Alamo Double Departure

Dear Councilmember Bostrom,

I am a resident of the West Side and I wanted to say thank you for your support in keeping the West Side neighborhood safe from gun violence. On the West Side we support and encourage small businesses but in the case of El Alamo, it had become more of a safety liability than a local business. I know the final vote on the double departure is this Wednesday and I wanted to say in advance of that how much our community appreciates your work to keep the city safe.

Kareem Smith
Board Member,
RDLU Chair,
West Side Community Organization

From: Joy Sorensen Navarre [<mailto:sorensenavarre@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 4:50 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1
Subject: Thank you for supporting our safe West Side

Dear Councilmember Thao,

Thank you for your leadership for our city. I really appreciate your vision for our city and neighborhoods. Dai, working with you for the Mayoral race was satisfying, even with its outcome. Thank you for the opportunity to take part!

I'm writing today to thank you for your support of a safe West Side.

You may know that I've been actively listening to and encouraging the neighbors who live near El Alamo Bar. The bar is a disaster and a danger to our community and our children. It needs to close for the safety of our community.

I understand the final vote on the double departure is tomorrow and I wanted to say in advance of that how much our community appreciates your work to keep the city safe.

All the best,
--Joy
Joy Sorensen Navarre