

**From:** [James Wilkinson](#)  
**To:** [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)  
**Subject:** Ordinance proposal 21-6  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 3:46:25 PM

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Would you like to get all weapons and shields and every possible offensive and defensive item off of St Paul streets for parades, festivals, demonstrations? YES.

How about banning all those except for guns and bullet-proof vests? NO.

Would you like to make it illegal to reproduce the Powderhorn May Day parade and all its fantastic floats and vehicles and signs and canoe paddles at Lake Phalen? NO.

How about arresting people for having glass bottles at Cinco de Mayo events? NO.

How about doing that while at the same time allowing white nationalists to march up to the State Capitol or to Mt. Zion Temple or to the Islamic Dawah Center with guns and kevlar gear? NO.

Would you think it a good idea if St. Paul arrests someone at a rally for gun control laws for bringing an imitation flintlock gun made of wood and steel pipe while a person on the other side of the street with a loaded pistol is given the go-ahead by the City of St. Paul? NO.

Would you think it a good idea if proponents of racial justice and people opposing right wing terror are given the message that they too should come with guns to the next political event? NO.

Have we had enough of intimidation and guns being brandished by the far right in the streets of St. Paul? YES.

St. Paul law already says:

“It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in any parade, race, or public assembly activity that would constitute a substantial hazard to the public safety or that would materially interfere with or endanger the public peace or rights of residents to the quiet and peaceful enjoyment of their property.”

That should be enough.

If it is not, the ordinance should require law enforcement to strictly enforce state laws on possession of weapons, with highest priority on guns, the most dangerous weapons already out there. I have sent suggested language to President Brendmoen's office that would have law enforcement in St. Paul focus on those problems as part of an ordinance change.

This proposed law threatens those who pose the least threat to our City and will never be equally enforced

Thank you for your attention.

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