

Williams, Josh (CI-StPaul)

From: Valerie Were <valeriewere@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 10:37 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3; Williams, Josh (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Your Action Needed: Vote "Yes" to uphold the appeal for the Shepard Davern Development

Good morning,

As a resident of Highland Park, I was appalled to hear of the variance granted to the proposed development at the Shepherd Davern site.

Remember, this site is within the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area and the National Park boundary. This affords the area special protections that the development plan would violate.

An additional 33.5 feet would put the building at over 70 feet in an area zoned for a maximum of 40 feet. Furthermore, the additional height changes the unique natural and scenic values irreversibly. Those values were specifically protected when Congress created the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

I am not against development as I recognize that is necessary for moving the city forward.

What I am against is development that is irresponsible and unnecessary.

Even more troubling is that allowing this building to go up would set a precedence for development in the area. I am thinking particularly of the former Ford plant site and how development at that site would be impacted by decisions made at the Shepherd Daven site.

In closing, I urge you, strongly, to vote "Yes" to uphold the appeal.

Sincerely,
Valerie Were

"If you can't be a good example, then you'll just have to serve as a horrible warning" Catherine Aird