

From: [Mckenzie, James](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_LH-Licensing](#)
Subject: Expanding Handsome Hog Operating hours
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:31:57 AM

Having lived at Saint Paul's iconic Blair House (165 Western Ave. N,) since the beginning of Covid, (June 2020) we have long been aware of the issue of extended after hours partying, noise, and police incidents in and around that restaurant. These episodes have kept many residents, especially those whose units face onto Selby, awake many hours with loud music, loud conversations, arguments, and sometime resulting flashing police lights and related disturbances. Not only did these events cause significant loss of sleep from residents, but they disrupted their work lives, including those of our live-in caretaker, whose apartment is directly across narrow Selby from the offending, afterhours outdoor operations of Handsome Hog. This led to repeated complaints to city council and police intervention, after which the now former owner assured he would comply with the law, did exactly that.

Now the business has been sold and the new owner seeks to change the law to allow much later closing hours which will immediately generate new noisy situations, only now they would be legal. This can only lead to more conflict and, inevitably, the deterioration of the very atmosphere and dynamic that make this neighborhood so attractive a walkable destination for dining other than fast food enterprises. Blair House, whose striking features and restoration in the early Eighties helped lead the way to neighborhood renewal would suffer and likely lose both owners and renters if they could no longer enjoy peaceful late evenings and early mornings. We are not a bedroom suburb but part of a thriving Saint Paul active city, mixed-use neighborhood. Adding two to and more hours of noisy outdoor activity can only erode the atmosphere that helps keep Cathedral Hill and Selby Western so vital an urban neighborhood.

Please do not undo the amicable, workable arrangements that the previous owner established with the city and its immediate neighbors two years ago. Do not approve this application for stretching weekday hours into party nights that go past ten o'clock every night. It does not suit the residents of Blair House and many surrounding homes, condo and rental units. Such hours will allow late night life noise to disturb the necessary rest of many other workers and professionals in the immediately surrounding neighborhood.

Thanks for your attention.

Patrici Lazarus and James McKenzie
165 Western Ave. N.

Apt. 303
Saint Paul, MN
55102