

Amy Brendmoen, Council President
City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

To the City Council of Saint Paul:

I oppose the expansion of the Twin Cities German Immersion charter School (TCGIS), and specifically the demolition of the former St. Andrew's church, a historically significant building in the Warrendale neighborhood of St. Paul that contributes to the architectural richness and charm of our city. If demolished, embodied energy calculators shared by HPC estimate it will send over 2,000 tons to the landfill and have a huge impact on the neighborhood.

Many of us in the neighborhood are opposed to the required variances—including one of the largest parking variances ever requested—but the school has a PR firm lobbying the city council on their behalf. There have also been some related irregularities at the Planning Commission recently that caught the attention of the city attorney's office.

It's worth reading the article in the Progressive magazine, "The Charter School Next Door, What Happens When Public Education Becomes a Market place?" by Sarah Lahm that discusses the negative impacts public charters have on neighborhoods and traditional public schools. It's worth noting that in Minnesota, public charter schools are exempt from anti-segregation laws.

TCGIS' plan creates safety and traffic issues, adversely changes the character of the neighborhood, doesn't promote diversity (the school is 87% white vs. 29% for neighborhood schools), is opposed by the St. Paul Federation of Teachers and NAACP, and—out of lack of empathy—destroys the symbolic heart of Warrendale, the former St. Andrew's church. Designed in 1927 by St. Paul's first city architect, author of St. Paul's first building code, and noted progressive, Charles A. Hausler. The neighborhood is small, so their plan to destroy the historic St. Andrew's church would have an outsized affect. This does not align with Mayor Carter's initiatives of inclusivity and equity.

TCGIS is not a neighborhood school, it does not offer enrollment preference to those who live in Saint Paul, essentially, and it's a commuter school where most students are driven to school by parents.

We hope our elected officials will take seriously the commitment to equity that's at the forefront of Mayor Carter's initiative to reduce citywide disparities—and not bow to pressure exerted by TCGIS or its controversial TenSquare consultants.

Sincerely

Barbara Erickson
1137 Churchill St
St. Paul, MN 55103

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102


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- Saint Paul's comprehensive plan states that the greenest building is the one left standing. In Saint Paul, there are examples of former churches reused for performance spaces, homes, and a charter school. If demolished, embodied energy calculators shared by HPC estimate it will send over 2,000 tons to the landfill and have a huge impact on the neighborhood. Demolition is not consistent with Mayor Carter's initiative to be carbon-neutral by 2050.
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St. Andrew's is irreplaceable.

Signed:


1080 Pleasant Ave.
St. Paul MN 55102

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Signed:

Marilyn Hausman

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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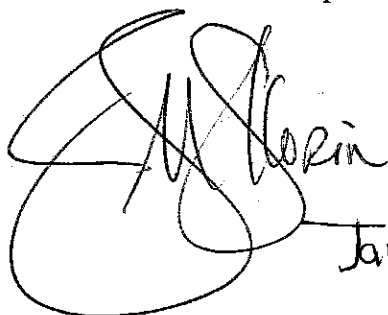
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Signed:



Janie Korin
Tiffany Ln.
Execd/slot

St. Paul City Council
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Signed:

Steven L. Proper
Kathryn Proper
John Paul Proper
Iowa Ave W.
Bridget Proper

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St. Andrew's is irreplaceable.

Signed:

Angela Mary Newsom
1588 Knight St,
Shoreview, Mn 55126
angnewsom@live.com



Friends of Warrendale - Save Historic St. Andrews LLC

St. Andrew's has been an important anchor for early immigrants to our city, was part of the education of generations of children at the adjacent St. Andrew's School and helped spawn no fewer than five other area Catholic Churches. We commissioned a historic designation study that was submitted to the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, which determined, by an overwhelming 9-1 vote, that St. Andrew's is eligible as a local heritage preservation site.

Sign our petition

<https://www.gopetition.com/petitions/save-historic-st-andrews-in-como-park.html>

Donate

<https://www.gofundme.com/savehistoricstandrews>

Call, write or email your City Council member before March 5th.

Inform City Council you oppose a plan that would destroy a historic building. Remind city council and its sustainability officer that demolition is not green, nor sustainable, and that the greenest building is the one already built. Use the enclosed templates or write your own, include your name and address with your signature! Please send your emails, letters and make your phone calls prior to March 5th.

ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us Dai Thao

ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us Rebecca Noecker

ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us Chris Tolbert

ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us Mitra Jalali Nelson

ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us Amy Brendmoen, also City Council President

ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us Kassim Busuri

ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us Jane Prince

Attend the City Council Meeting March 6th at 5:30 and March 20th at 5:30 to determine the fate of St. Andrew's.

Follow us on our website: <https://savehistoricsaintandrews.org/>

Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/historicstandrews1

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St. Andrew's is irreplaceable.

Signed:



998 Chatsworth St. N
St. Paul, MN 55103

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Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Signed:

Anne Mouton

875 Lincoln Ave
St. Paul, MN 55105

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Signed:

Bethany Bonenfant
Bethany Bonenfant

~~895~~ Lincoln Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55105

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Signed:

Katie Erickson
Katie
8000 Lincoln Ave

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Signed: Joseph McCullough



~~1699~~ Fernwood Street
St. Paul MN 55108

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Signed:



Mark Morath

St. Paul City Council
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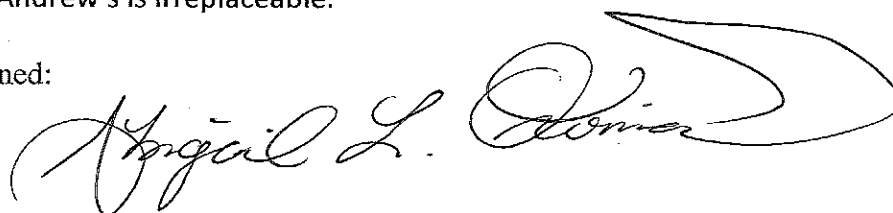
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Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arjail L. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

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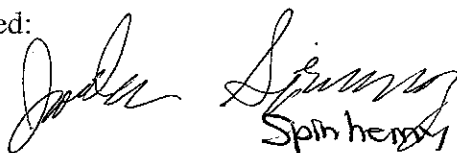
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I oppose the expansion of the Twin Cities German Immersion charter School (TCGIS), and specifically the demolition of the former St. Andrew's church, a historically significant building in the Warrendale neighborhood of St. Paul that contributes to the architectural richness and charm of our city. I am not against TCGIS educating children. I am rallying against a bad plan which I find disrespectful and harmful to the health and history of a neighborhood.

- Saint Paul's comprehensive plan states that the greenest building is the one left standing. In Saint Paul, there are examples of former churches reused for performance spaces, homes, and a charter school. If demolished, embodied energy calculators shared by HPC estimate it will send over 2,000 tons to the landfill and have a huge impact on the neighborhood. Demolition is not consistent with Mayor Carter's initiative to be carbon-neutral by 2050.
- According to the National Historic Preservation Act, "A place's owner, a preservation organization, or a member of the community who values the resource usually initiates the application for historic designation"—that's the law.
- In the AIA Guide to Twin Cities Architecture, retired Pioneer Press writer Larry Millet called out St Andrew's as one of the best local examples of period revival churches in Saint Paul.
- It's worth reading the article (<https://progressive.org/magazine>) "*The Charter School Next Door, What Happens When Public Education Becomes a Market place?*" that discusses the negative impacts charter schools have on neighborhoods and traditional public schools nationwide. Minnesota is the only state that allows charter schools to be exempt from anti-segregation laws.
- The St. Paul Chapter of NAACP and St. Paul Federation of Educators agree object to the expansion of a charter school that is nearly 90% white and far more affluent than other St. Paul schools. The TCGIS expansion plan does not align with Mayor Carter's initiative to combat inequity.

St. Andrew's is irreplaceable.

Signed:



John Spink
Spink Henry

1600 Zerkow Ave
St Louis Park

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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 Dale St.