

Councilman Stark, I live at 450 Beacon Ave, the property directly north of these 3 vacant properties. Since we discovered that the properties were abandoned in the winter of 2012-2013 I have kept the sidewalks clear of snow and have mowed the lawns to give an appearance that someone is paying attention to the properties as a means of warding off any more squatters, thieves, addicts, drug dealers, or others who do not belong on the properties.

With the support of many of my neighbors both on this block and within several blocks we have kept a collective eye on things and have a line of communication among one another to report the things and people that we observe who might not have the best intents.

I have been unable to attend any of the public meetings associated with these properties to have my voice heard so I am now addressing you as my best option to be heard.

Following is a copy of a message sent by my neighbor Thomas Rupp. It articulates exceptionally well my own feelings and so I express my full concurrence by including it in this message.

Here is the email I am sending all councilmembers:

Councilman Stark and staff,

After following and reviewing the status of 444 Beacon, I want to express my concern as a neighbor and citizen interested in the redevelopment of St. Paul. Since Mr. Amaya's purchase, no visible signs of care have been taken on this property. A neighbor has mowed the grass and plowed the snow to maintain appearances in the interest of neighborhood safety.

Nothing in the minutes of the legislative hearing meeting from March 25th gives me assurance that Mr. Amaya has the resources or the capacity to complete the needed renovations on this property to restore it to a livable state.

Our neighborhood is in a very fragile state. With 2 vacant buildings adjacent to 444 Beacon, the opportunity to remove old structures needing significant updating and replace them with efficient new construction is much more mindful for the long term health of the neighborhood than allowing a low bid flip.

Given the limited finances and foggy at best details of a family contractor completing this unlikely renovation in both scope and timeframe, I am requesting that you to please vote against the work plan for renovation from Mr. Amaya and recommend removal of the structure. Thank you.

Thomas Rupp
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Councilman Stark, virtually all of my neighbors work during the hours that these public hearings are held and so our ability to attend is quite limited.

Thank you.

Tom Kieffer
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