

Legislative Hearing Officer
310 City Hall
15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Re: License No. 20100004254 / 1125 West 7th Street / SuperAmerica #4420

Dear Ms. Moermond,

As a resident living across the street from SuperAmerica (SA), I am completely opposed to the application for a Malt Off Sale license at 1125 West 7th Street.

Issues of Concern

#1: Employee Safety

The staff at SA is a delightful bunch and they do their job well. Introducing the sale of alcohol will increase staff responsibilities and will increase the number of intoxicated customers. It can get rather hectic in the store at times. SA staff can't possibly be providing good customer service and increased security measures, while properly managing on-site alcohol. SA staff should not be legally responsible for sale or consumption of alcohol by others, period – they have enough on their plate.

#2: Increased “Garbage”

Like all businesses, the majority of SA customers are good customers, and they have some really bad customers. Unfortunately, the bad customers tend to ruin opportunities for others. The sale of alcohol will simply add to the number of bad customers and imperfect antics we (customers & staff) deal with on a regular basis:

- poor treatment of staff
- foul & inappropriate language on site
- litter - on site and down the block
- rowdy driving
- tacky temporary signage/banners
- excessive noise levels
- drug dealing

If SA would like to increase their business opportunities, we have several non-alcoholic suggestions! Neighbors welcome open conversation with the new owners and I would be happy to organize a neighborhood meeting to discuss local improvements.

Thank you for your time,

Becca Hine
757 Armstrong Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Re: License No. 20100004254 / 1125 West 7th Street / SuperAmerica #4420

Dear Ms. Moermond,

Please count me as another neighbor OPPOSED to the sale of “3.2” beverages at SuperAmerica. Granting this favor to them would do more harm than good to the area, and since SuperAmerica is in the business of selling petroleum products, they hardly need to get into the alcohol market.

There are three liquor stores within walking distance of SuperAmerican – Stransky’s, Dannecker’s, and the Liquor Barrel. There is already cheap, awful beer at each of these locations and it’s available six days a week. It’s not asking too much of anyone to plan ahead for their Sunday drinking sessions.

Although SuperAmerica’s employees are to be commended for their work ethic, the site is nowhere near as clean as it ought to be. Selling malt beverages will only make things worse, judging by the type of litter I currently find in the neighborhood (empty beer cans and liquor bottles, e.g.). West Seventh Street is proud to be home to Hazelden and other chemical dependency enterprises – there are enough outlets for alcohol in the neighborhood without increasing the temptation to those in treatment.

Let’s face it – those customers who buy 3.2 malt beverages are desperate for a buzz. There are enough people dealing drugs and hanging out behind SuperAmerica without introducing another vice. This clearly is just an attempt to make another buck at our expense. We know the new owners are from another state and don’t understand that Saint Paul intends to be the Most Liveable City in America. Selling this low-quality product does nothing to help attain that goal.

I am hardly one to promote temperance, and in fact would support allowing liquor stores to be open on Sundays. But this is a bad idea. We lose good neighbors regularly as their children age because they do not want their kids exposed to drunk and drugged people. The needs of the neighborhood should come before those of Big Oil, and the last time I checked there were still plenty of people buying gasoline. They are not experiencing hardship and do not need any special favors.

Thank you in advance for declining their request.

Andrew M. Hine
757 Armstrong Av
across the street from the back and side of SA

LH-Licensing - Malt off sale license for 1125 7th St W

From: "Lorri Steffen" <lorrysteffen@comcast.net>
To: <LH-Licensing@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Date: 12/17/2010 9:25 AM
Subject: Malt off sale license for 1125 7th St W

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a property owner on View Street near the property in question I am strongly opposed to adding the Malt Off Sale license. Our experience at our properties over the years is that when there is any increased liquor sales from neighboring businesses this only leads to more public drunkenness, more littering in alleys and streets in the area, more public urination and more crime and attempted break ins.

Our property backs up to West 7th Street and the foot traffic from intoxicated individuals through our property from the businesses on West 7th is already problematic enough.

Thank you for sharing our concerns at this hearing.

Lorri Steffen

Steffen Zenner Properties

St. Paul, MN 55102