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CITY OF SAINT PAUL

City Council

Proposed Change to Commercial Development District Public Hearing Location Requirement



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Commercial Development Districts

- Most new on-sale liquor licenses are prohibited in St Paul outside of downtown or an approved Commercial Development District
 - Exceptions: hotels, restaurants, and private nonprofit colleges
- CDDs are defined geographical areas in which any type of on-sale liquor license can be issued
- They can be any size and can restrict the number and type of on-sale liquor licenses permitted



History

- 16 CDD public hearings since 1988
 - Ward 1 – 0
 - Ward 2 – 10
 - Ward 3 – 3
 - Ward 4 – 1
 - Ward 5 – 1
 - Ward 6 – 1
 - Ward 7 – 0



District Creation Process

1. Written petition
 - Consent of 2/3 of owners within the district and within 100 feet of the district
2. Planning Commission review
3. City Council public hearing
4. City Council adoption of ordinance with at least 5 votes



Public Hearing Requirements

- Current requirement:
 - The Council or a committee thereof shall hold a public hearing in the ward or wards in which the district is to be located
 - Notice must be published in official newspaper and also mailed to all owners within the area at least 20 days in advance
- Proposed change:
 - Strike location requirement
 - No changes to notice requirement or timing



What is the public benefit to this change?

- Greater transparency
 - Predictable meeting times and locations
 - Hearing will be televised and publicly broadcast as part of the regular City Council meeting
 - Options for call-in testimony at City Hall
- Cost savings to city taxpayers



Questions?