Ms. Nhia Vang Legislative Hearing Officer City of St. Paul 310 City Hall 15 Kellogg Blvd West St. Paul MN 55102



Dear Ms. Vang,

I am sending you a petition (enclosed) with 28 signatures of members of our neighborhood, concerning the Lexington Restaurant's proposal for outdoor drinking/dining. We will be presenting this petition to you at the hearing this Thursday.

The petition outlines our concerns, the reasons for our concerns, and a proposed compromise. I have also included two photos: one was taken from the entrance to our back yard, showing how close the proposed dining/drinking area is (a distance of 95 feet); the other was taken from our bedroom window, a distance of about 130 feet from the proposed area.

My wife, Alice Medley, and I will both be at the hearing, along with a few other neighbors. We are hoping that our willingness to support the Lexington, with some compromises which we feel will allow them to expand services and increase revenue, will help this turn into a 'win win' situation for everyone.

Sincerely,

Louis Bartholome 1089 Lincoln Ave.

952-746-6164

Lbartholome@gmail.com

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Petition regarding the Lexington Restaurant's request to add a Liquor-Outdoor Service Area

December 26, 2012

We are members of the neighborhood close to the Lexington Restaurant, and are signing this petition to indicate that the Lexington's proposal has not received a generally favorable disposition from the surrounding community. The following are the reasons for our objections:

- 1) The proposal currently being brought to the City Council for approval is significantly different than the proposal originally described to the community (which got the requisite 60% support from neighbors within 300 feet); the original proposal, described during a summer meeting at the Lexington, attended by many neighbors, was for a minor adaptation: adding a 'few tables' to the rooftop area, so that the restaurant could serve more people during the dinner hour; in response to concerns about noise, community members were assured that the addition would be focused on the dinner hour, with a quiet ambience. After the proposal received the requisite neighborhood support, the proposal was switched: now the restaurant seeks to seat 70 people on the roof (with a rooftop bar) and stay open until 1AM, well past the 'dinner hour'.
- 2) The proposed outdoor area faces away from Grand Ave., directly into the back yards of several homes; it is within 100 feet of the back yards of three homes. Having an outdoor bar that close to residences is likely to interfere with the reasonable use and enjoyment of the neighboring property.
- 3) There are houses with young children within 300 feet of the proposed bar area; having an outdoor bar open until 'normal closing hours' in the summer hours will very probably bear adversely on the general welfare of these families.
- 4) It sets a bad precedent to allow a restaurant along Grand Ave. to open a bar area that faces directly into a residential area; no other outdoor area along Grand Ave. faces into the residential area: the effect of this action on the surrounding community would almost certainly be negative, if this precedent is set.
- 5) After initially agreeing to proposed conditions to limit the hours of this outdoor bar area to a 9PM closing (at an October 8 meeting of the Summit Hill Association/District 16 Planning Council), the Lexington ownership then reversed course, and at the November 15 hearing before Ms. Nhia Vang, the Legislative Hearing Officer, refused to consider offers from community residents for a compromise solution.

It is for these reasons that we respectfully request that unless the proposed conditions are added to the licensing, the Lexington's request for expansion be denied.

Petition: Regarding the Lexington Restaurant's Request to ADD Liquior-Outdoor service area

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Petition Regarding the Lexington Restaurants
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ST. PAULI MN 58105



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