

Mai Vang

From: Richard Kedrowski
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 3:03 PM
To: Mai Vang
Cc: Lisa Martin
Subject: FW: 555 Smith Ave S

FYI

From: Lightner Ross, Lauren <lauren.ross@co.ramsey.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2025 1:04 PM
To: Richard Kedrowski <Richard.Kedrowski@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: Willie Williams <Willie.Williams@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Lisa Martin <lisa.martin@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: RE: 555 Smith Ave S

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Hey DSI staff

This is a great question that Dick is asking, and I want to share our insight because this change happened on October 1, 2025. HouseCalls lacks the resources to assist residents in finding alternative living opportunities. When a condemnation order lists numerous detailed concerns, assisting with sanitation is only a small part of the overall need. In complete transparency, the HouseCalls Sanitation budget is minimal. We have allocated \$38,000 to support residents with sanitation services for 2 years. The way the grant works, we must spend an equal amount per month. That amounts to HouseCalls helping one household with \$1583.00 per month for the next 24 months with a clean-up. The average estimate for a home to get cleaned up is between \$2000 and \$5000. That budget is for ALL of Ramsey County. The funding cliff is here, and it is dramatic for the help HouseCalls can offer any resident. We can help with dumpsters when there are orders, and we can help with guiding things for recycling (mattresses, appliances that are not working, electrical, etc.). We can collaborate with other Ramsey County professionals to identify local resources that might be an option, but realistically, the need far exceeds the available resources.

With that being said, we genuinely care about Ramsey County residents, and we will take the time to discuss possible options with them. Sade Kelly and I are the only two social work staff available to go into the field, and we are both currently active in Eviction Court most Tuesdays and Wednesdays all day. Minnesota Housing has decided that all funds for preventing homelessness in the RC will be channeled through Eviction Court until further notice. If we have not been as available, I greatly apologize.

Please check out the blue link below. Please place it in your favorite browser; it is updated daily & has 144 pages of all your local community resources to access as needed. I hope this helps you. I encourage you to save it as a “Favorite” to reference
[BASIC NEEDS & WELLNESS RESOURCES FOR RAMSEY COUNTY](#)

Lauren Lightner Ross, LICSW

Social Worker 4

Public Health | *Health and Wellness*

651-266-1285 FAX 651-266-1389

555 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55101

From: Richard Kedrowski <Richard.Kedrowski@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2025 9:42 AM
To: Lightner Ross, Lauren <lauren.ross@co.ramsey.mn.us>
Cc: Lisa Martin <lisa.martin@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: RE: 555 Smith Ave S - Dennis Grohs

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The Appeal Process is probably his best bet right now. Can you look for Living Options for him?

From: Lightner Ross, Lauren <lauren.ross@co.ramsey.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2025 9:39 AM
To: Richard Kedrowski <Richard.Kedrowski@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: RE: 555 Smith Ave S - Dennis Grohs

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Good morning,

I spoke to Dennis this am for a long time. He certainly seems stuck in this situation. He is not reporting any method for resolving all the items on the condemnation list. I am concerned that he is over-income for our sanitation funds. He said he is appealing and will have a court hearing. A significant concern is that he lacks heat. He is estranged from his only child and has distant siblings who are unlikely to assist.

He needs to sell this house as is pretty quickly, or he will lose it completely. I am open to any insights you have.

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Lauren Lightner Ross, LICSW

Social Worker 4

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From: Richard Kedrowski <Richard.Kedrowski@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2025 8:16 AM

To: Lightner Ross, Lauren <lauren.ross@co.ramsey.mn.us>

Subject: 555 Smith Ave S - Dennis Grohs

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Hi Lauren,

Attached is a copy of the Condemnation for 555 Smith Ave S. Please let me know if there is anything else that you need.

Thanks,
Dick