

Burger, Kathryn (CI-StPaul)

From: Amanda Mickelson <amanda.r.mickelson@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 4:30 PM
To: *CI-StPaul_LH-Licensing; Thao, Dai (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Taste of Rondo
Attachments: Taste of Rondo.pdf

Hello there,

Please find attached concerns regarding the application for liquor license at the proposed Taste of Rondo establishment.

To be clear, I am very supportive of the establishment opening but due to the city's inability to enforce current rules and regulation on other establishments in the neighborhood with liquor licenses and the crime and danger it brings to our neighborhood, I feel that we should not permit a liquor license with opening of the Taste of Rondo and rather re-evaluate after some trust has been established with the individuals that live there and need to feel safe there 24/7.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you would like to discuss further

Amanda Mickelson
872 Concordia Ave, St Paul, MN 55104

April 12, 2019

Dear Kris Schweinler, Jeff Fischbach and the Legislative Hearing Officer:

Hello there - I am a resident of the Rondo neighborhood at 872 Concordia Ave, in Saint Paul and I am writing to express my concern regarding the liquor license application for the *Taste of Rondo's* at 976 Concordia. As a 2 year resident of this neighborhood my ongoing experience has been nothing but relentless disruption, traffic violations and safety concerns regarding the only other current business with a liquor license in the neighborhood at the *Pioneer Club*. I have personally made numerous calls to 911 regarding drug deals, general nuisance, and shootings all originating from the *Pioneer Club*. Of the shooting incidents at the location neither have brought any resolution regarding persecution - one of those being due to the direct inability of the club to provide any security video footage to the police even though the shooting happened within the 4 walls of their establishment.

Allowing *The Pioneer Club* to maintain a liquor license in a residential neighborhood causes unsafe traffic and individuals to frequent a neighborhood that they have no investment in. I do not feel safe walking around my own block at night when the club is open due to their general clientele and their obvious inability and indeliberate to enforce the "rules" that the city has laid forth for them as a private club. While the *Taste of Rondo* should not necessarily be judged based on these establishments, that history cannot be overlooked. The neighborhood deserves a full, transparent, and careful review to prevent the mistakes of the past from repeating themselves.

While I am 100% invested in this neighborhood and am excited about the opportunity for further development into the neighborhood, I am extremely weary of the additional traffic and clientele that having another establishment in the neighborhood with a liquor license will bring. I am also extremely concerned about the impact that having another establishment with a liquor license will have on the existing *Pioneer Club*. From experience with the lack of ability to enforce regulation on the *Pioneer Club* I truly feel like we need to take a wait and see approach before providing another liquor license to an establishment in this residential neighborhood. While Mr. Carter's plan *looks* to be well thought out, it is just that, his plan. Reality may be far different, and the realization of this will be left to the neighborhood, long after the planning council and other governing bodies have long since forgotten about it. Enforcement and eternal vigilance then become the burden of the concerned residents and an overstretched police force.

I can support the *Taste of Rondo* opening as a restaurant. In fact, would encourage it heartily. A consideration of liquor sales, given the abundance of history, must follow *only* after a track record is well established.

Regards

Amanda Mickelson
872 Concordia Ave

cc. Dai Thao, Ward 1 City
Councilmember