

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

To the City Council of Saint Paul:

I oppose the expansion of the Twin Cities German Immersion charter School (TCGIS), and specifically the demolition of the former St. Andrew's church, a historically significant building in the Warrendale neighborhood of St. Paul that contributes to the architectural richness and charm of our city. If demolished, embodied energy calculators shared by HPC estimate it will send over 2,000 tons to the landfill and have a huge impact on the neighborhood.

Many of us are opposed to the required variances—including one of the largest parking variances ever requested—but the school has a PR firm lobbying the city council on their behalf. There have also been some related irregularities at the Planning Commission recently that caught the attention of the city attorney's office.

TCGIS is not a neighborhood school, it does not offer enrollment preference to those who live in Saint Paul, essentially, it's a commuter school where most students are driven to school by parents. In fact, almost half of students are not residents of Saint Paul.

It's worth reading the article (<https://progressive.org/magazine>) "*The Charter School Next Door, What Happens When Public Education Becomes a Marketplace?*" that discusses the negative impacts public charters have on neighborhoods and traditional public schools. It's worth noting that in Minnesota, public charter schools are exempt from anti-segregation laws.

TCGIS' plan creates safety and traffic issues, adversely changes the character of the neighborhood, doesn't promote diversity (the school is 87% white vs. 29% for neighborhood schools), is opposed by the St. Paul Federation of Educators and NAACP, and—out of lack of empathy—destroys the symbolic heart of Warrendale, the former St. Andrew's church. Designed in 1927 by St. Paul's first city architect, author of St. Paul's first building code, and noted progressive, Charles A. Hausler. The neighborhood is small, so their plan to destroy the historic St. Andrew's church would have an outsized affect. This does not align with Mayor Carter's initiatives of inclusivity and equity.

We hope our elected officials will take seriously the commitment to equity that's at the forefront of Mayor Carter's initiative to reduce citywide disparities—and not bow to pressure exerted by TCGIS or its controversial TenSquare consultants.

Signed:



Cristina Cocchi



Cristina Cocchi

868 Como Ave
St. Paul

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Signed:

Michael Borban
7-- Nebraska Ave E

RECEIVED

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

MAY 19 2013

COUNCILMEMBER
DAI THAO

Dear Council Member _____,

I oppose the expansion of the Twin Cities German Immersion charter School (TCGIS), and specifically the demolition of the former St. Andrew's church, a historically significant building in the Warrendale neighborhood of St. Paul that contributes to the architectural richness and charm of our city.

- According to the National Historic Preservation Act, "A place's owner, a preservation organization, or a member of the community who values the resource usually initiates the application for historic designation". Citizens can nominate important buildings for historic designation—that's the law.
- Demolition of St. Andrew's would forever alter the character of a small, historic neighborhood and destroys a significant St. Paul historic landmark.
- It is proven that the building was designed in 1927 by St. Paul's first city architect, author of St. Paul's first building code, and noted progressive, Charles A. Hausler. The Heritage Preservation Commission voted that St. Andrew's IS HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT AND SHOULD BE SAVED. This decision was then reviewed by the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office which agreed.
- The TCGIS choice to expand its enrollment is opposed by the St. Paul Federation of Teachers and NAACP. Public charter schools are exempt from the same anti-segregation laws that public schools such as SPPS must follow.
- TCGIS has elected to expand it's enrollment, resulting in their desire to demolish St. Andrew's. There are better options.
- In Saint Paul, there are examples of former churches reused for performance spaces, homes, and a charter school. There is a better plan. The environmental rewards of adaptive reuse are significant. The greenest building is the one already standing.
- St. Andrew's deserves to be valued, not leveled. In the AIA Guide to Twin Cities Architecture, retired Pioneer Press writer Larry Millet called out St Andrew's as one of the best local examples of period revival.
- The demolition of St. Andrew's violates the city and neighborhood comprehensive plans.

The legacy of the demolition of an eligible historic site would be permanent and sets a terrible precedent. St. Andrew's is irreplaceable. If St. Andrew's is needlessly lost, so is opportunity for collaboration and compromise.

Name
Address

Florence Mueller
635 Maryland Ave. W
St. Paul, MN.

RECEIVED

MAY 13 2019

COUNCILMEMBER
DAI THAO

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Name Tim + Colleen Perfect
Address 944 Nevada Ave W.
St Paul 55117

RECEIVED

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DAI THAO

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Name Ferial Abraham
Address 998 Como Ave
St Paul, MN 55103



Ms. Ferial Abraham
998 Como Ave
Saint Paul, MN 55103

RECEIVED

MAY 18 2018

COUNCILMEMBER
DAI THAO

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Name Zachary E. Konkel
Address 1098 Oxford St. N. St. Paul, MN

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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DAI THAO

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Name

Address

Andrew Konrad
1098 ~~Oliver~~ St St Paul MN 55103

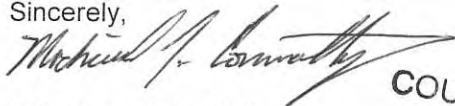
The school is too big for the space and will expand at cost of neighborhood.

05/10/2019

Dear St. Paul City Council member Dai Thao,

I am writing to you regarding the upcoming hearing and vote on the former Church of St. Andrew building in Como Park. As you know this has been a long and controversial project and I want to emphasize that your decision on this matter will no doubt greatly impact the neighborhood and the history of St. Paul. I urge you to vote **yes** for historic designation. The Heritage Preservation Commission and the State Historic Preservation Office both concur that the building is historic and should be granted protection.

Sincerely,



993 Chatsworth St. N

St. Paul MN 55103

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MAY 13 2019

COUNCILMEMBER
DAI THAO



City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Name Kathy Sullivan Kathy Sullivan
Address 925 W. Hoyt Ave.

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Name Robert Sartberg
Address 1732 NO. Saint Albans
Roseville Mn, 55113

5/11/19

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15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Name Peter Thalhuber
Address 1568 ALAMEDA ST
ST-Paul MN 55117

The city of ST-Paul has a great recycling program weekly, use less, be content with what you have, the school knew what they were purchasing when they purchased it with our Tax dollars.

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Name Mary Fitzgerald
Address 736 Wheelock Pkwy W
Saint Paul MN 55117

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Council Member MS. BRENDEN,

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Name
Address

David Katz

825 NEBRASKA AVE W.
ST. PAUL, MN. 55117

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Council Member M. Tracy Salati Nelson

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- In Saint Paul, there are examples of former churches reused for performance spaces, homes, and a *need*, charter school. There is a better plan. The environmental rewards of adaptive reuse are significant. *To late* The greenest building is the one already standing. *For the Church, What A Pity.*
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Name Jeanne Flesher

Address 1111 Churchill St St Paul 55103

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Council Member Mitra Jalali Nelson,

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Saint Paul, MN 55102

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I oppose the expansion of the Twin Cities German Immersion charter School (TCGIS), and specifically the demolition of the former St. Andrew's church, a historically significant building in the Warrendale neighborhood of St. Paul that contributes to the architectural richness and charm of our city.

- According to the National Historic Preservation Act, "A place's owner, a preservation organization, or a member of the community who values the resource usually initiates the application for historic designation". Citizens can nominate important buildings for historic designation—that's the law.
- Demolition of St. Andrew's would forever alter the character of a small, historic neighborhood and destroys a significant St. Paul historic landmark.
- It is proven that the building was designed in 1927 by St. Paul's first city architect, author of St. Paul's first building code, and noted progressive, Charles A. Hausler. The Heritage Preservation Commission voted that St. Andrew's IS HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT AND SHOULD BE SAVED. This decision was then reviewed by the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office which agreed.
- The TCGIS choice to expand its enrollment is opposed by the St. Paul Federation of Teachers and NAACP. Public charter schools are exempt from the same anti-segregation laws that public schools such as SPPS must follow.
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- In Saint Paul, there are examples of former churches reused for performance spaces, homes, and a charter school. There is a better plan. The environmental rewards of adaptive reuse are significant. The greenest building is the one already standing.
- St. Andrew's deserves to be valued, not leveled. In the AIA Guide to Twin Cities Architecture, retired Pioneer Press writer Larry Millet called out St. Andrew's as one of the best local examples of period revival.
- The demolition of St. Andrew's violates the city and neighborhood comprehensive plans.

The legacy of the demolition of an eligible historic site would be permanent and sets a terrible precedent. St. Andrew's is irreplaceable. If St. Andrew's is needlessly lost, so is opportunity for collaboration and compromise.

Name
Address

Jessie Marie Warner
2205 Midland View Ct. No.
Roseville, MN 55103

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Name Michael Nilles / Cristina Cocchi
Address 868 Como Ave
St Paul

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Council Member

Amy Brendmoen,

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Name
Address

Tim Zeier
2743 Dab St N
Rossville MN 55113

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Council Member Mittra Jalali Nelson,

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Name Michael D. Mell
Address 1245 VICTORIA ST N
St. Paul, Mn 55117

City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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