

Legislative Hearing Office  
310 City Hall  
15 West Kellogg Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55102

RECEIVED  
MAY 04 2011  
CITY CLERK

RE: Proposed outdoor sidewalk dining at Scusi Restaurant, 1806 St. Clair Avenue

Dear Examiner:

I am a neighbor of Scusi Restaurant. I live at 226 South Fairview. What stands between me and Scusi is a Super America. Consequently, I am accustomed to traffic, fumes, noise, debris and some obnoxious people.

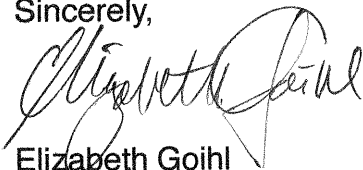
I am not opposed to Scusi owners trying to maximize their business potential. But when I first heard about Scusi's proposal for an outdoor eating area next to the restaurant I was mystified as to why anyone would want to eat their dinner in an outdoor cafe, across a busy street from a gas station. Unless, of course, customers are attracted to the outdoor smoking amenity.

There is not the problem of parking on Fairview, but I am concerned about the additional traffic and noise during rush hours and weekends and the cars that circle through our alley in search of parking spots near the restaurant. The opening of the parking lot at St. Clair and Fairview has addressed this issue to some extent although it appears customers prefer to park closer or are unaware. The lot is public and, therefore, open to all businesses in the area, including Groveland Tap which is separated from Scusi by a few storefronts.

I am concerned also about the hours. Granted Scusi closes at 10pm Mondays-Thursdays, it has extended hours on weekends; Fridays it is open from 4-11pm; Saturdays 9-2pm and 4-11pm; and Sundays 9-2pm and 4-9pm. My question is if customers arrive a few minutes before 11pm and order a bottle or two of wine, could they be sitting in the outdoor cafe past midnight, inebriated, loud ....and adding secondhand smoke to our already fuel and traffic polluted air?

These are my concerns and comments. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Gohl  
226 South Fairview  
St. Paul, MN 55105  
651-698-8117