

Dear Saint Paul City Council Members,
My husband and I are homeowners in Ward 4. My husband is a engineering professor at a local university whereas I work as the Director of Operations for a healthcare system.

I grew up farming and today still help my parents at the Saint Paul Farmers Market. I see how hard my parents work and I am appalled that this new rule would limit the ability of my parents or other hardworking, small scale farmers from making a living in the name of more parking spots.

My parents live on the East Side and have had multiple citations for their box truck. They were unaware that it was even against the law to park their truck in front of our house. They brought this issue up at an annual meeting of the Hmong American Farmers Association, which brought it up to Russ Stark, my council member. I'm happy that Russ pushed this issue forward. But the limit of one truck per address needs to be changed.

We need to support small immigrant businesses in Saint Paul, not tear them down. If the Council can vote to allow millionaires to not pay property taxes on a new soccer stadium, the least you can do is support urban farmers in growing their small businesses by allowing them the opportunity of investing in another truck if they need to.

Sincerely,
Lillian Hang