

From: [cathy.maes](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#); [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Graybar, Matthew \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Gause, George \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Cc: [Missy Thompson](#)
Subject: Letter for BZA, HPC and City Council re. 542 Portland Ave.
Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 6:38:53 AM

We support the appeal drafted by Gar Hargens and Missy Thompson. We too are opposed to the development as it is currently slated and designed. We believe that the volume of the triplex is far too massive, and the six variances added to the project says that it does not fit. We agree with all neighborhood architects who have cited design issues and applaud them for the time that they have put into this on short notice.

Our second concern: ***the process***. The project had a pre-application in February and then "popped up" fully developed without notice or neighborhood knowledge, it was then pushed quickly through the HPC, SUPC and BZA. When we purchased our home four years ago the HPC scrutinized the color and texture of the roof shingles we proposed. It delayed our project for months – this development should have had more scrutiny than the color of a shingle.

One may state that the pandemic is to blame, we would think that during such a time an even higher level of communication from our city leaders is imperative. 542 Portland is a square peg trying to fit in a round hole too quickly.

Tim and Cathy Maes
501 Portland Ave.

952.992.0000

--

Cathy Maes
952-992-0000 (cell)