



UNION PARK DISTRICT COUNCIL

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December 8, 2016

Barb McMonigal-St. Dennis, Department of Safety and Inspections
City of Saint Paul
375 Jackson Street, Suite 220
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Dear Ms. McMonigal-St. Dennis,

At its December 7, 2016 meeting, the full Union Park District Council (UPDC) board considered a request by O’Gara’s Bar and Grill that UPDC support a sound level variance for Friday, March 17, 2017 until 12:00 midnight.

The board voted unanimously to **recommend a sound level variance for March 17 extending until midnight.**

The board’s reasoning included the facts that 1) the variance would apply on a Friday evening this year, in contrast to other years where it applied to a weeknight and was limited to 10:30 pm; 2) the absence of neighbor complaints related to O’Gara’s annual St. Patrick’s Day event; and 3) an appreciation of the O’Garas as good neighbors who manage the event well.

In advance of the meeting, I sent correspondence to neighbors residing on Hague Avenue, immediately adjacent to O’Gara’s parking lot where the variance would be applied. I specifically asked for any objections to the variance. While I did receive one general concern about “loud music until midnight,” I received other comments from neighbors who support the variance, stating that the O’Garas “have done a terrific job in preparation for their event...by providing garbage bins on our street, setting up porta-potties..., managing parking and safety” and “providing neighbors with their cell phone numbers should there be any problems.”

I recognize that O’Gara’s may not have yet submitted the official application for a variance, but I nonetheless trust that the City will consider this District Council recommendation when considering the variance request.

Sincerely,

Julie Reiter, Executive Director, Union Park District Council

cc: Council President Russ Stark, Ward 4; Councilmember Dai Thao, Ward 1; Dan and Kris O’Gara