

January 29, 2014

VIA EMAIL

**Chair of Zoning Committee for the
City of St Paul Planning Commission**
c/o Anton Jerve, City Planner
City of Saint Paul
Department of Planning and Economic Development
25 West Fourth Street
1100 City Hall Annex
Saint Paul, MN 55102
Email: Anton.Jerve@ci.stpaul.mn.us

RE: 1221-1225 University Avenue Redevelopment Plans

Dear Chair of Zoning Committee and Mr. Jerve:

I am writing to express my support of the redevelopment plans as submitted to the City of St Paul for the new two story Goodwill facility at 1221-1225 University Avenue. As a business owner I want to emphasize my support of the applicant's CUP and variance requests for the project. I respectfully encourage your full support of the project.

My family and I are a long term commercial property owners on University Avenue, including the former Whitaker Buick facility. Our family has owned businesses on University Avenue for over 75 years and we are quite familiar with the immediate neighborhood. Goodwill's planned facility will be an excellent transit supportive enhancement to the immediate intersection and the Avenue. It is time for this stretch of University Avenue to see some redevelopment action.

The Goodwill use and the planned store size are exciting for the Avenue. While the proposal is clearly a transit supportive re development, economically viable quality parking is critical to all business, and the project team's plans address that balance well. The site plans and their relationship to the alley are very clean. The exterior building design and material qualities planned will be a very positive long-term addition to the Avenue. The trellis detailing, the pedestrian friendly area, and the landscaping along the sidewalk screening the parking lot are all tremendous upgrades to anything like it along the Avenue.

Again, I urge you to support their project.

Sincerely,



Chuck Whitaker

January 15, 2014

VIA EMAIL and Regular Mail

**Chair of Zoning Committee for the
City of St Paul Planning Commission**
c/o Anton Jerve, City Planner
City of Saint Paul
Department of Planning and Economic Development
25 West Fourth Street
1100 City Hall Annex
Saint Paul, MN 55102
Email: Anton.Jerve@ci.stpaul.mn.us

RE: 1221-1225 University Avenue Redevelopment Plans

Dear Chair of Zoning Committee and Mr. Jerve:

I am writing to express my support of the redevelopment plans as submitted to the City of St Paul for the new two story Goodwill facility at 1221-1225 University Avenue. I respectfully encourage your full support as well.

I am a long term commercial property owner on University Avenue, including the immediate neighboring property to the east of the former Whitaker Buick facility across Griggs. Property owners in the immediate area have been waiting a long time for redevelopment to start, and the Goodwill facility will be an excellent enhancement to our immediate intersection and University Avenue. It is time for this stretch of University Avenue to see some redevelopment action.

I personally attended neighborhood meetings held by the development team on the Whitaker site in October and reviewed the project plans. The exterior building design and material qualities planned will be a very positive long-term addition to the Avenue. The trellis detailing, the pedestrian friendly area, and the landscaping along the sidewalk screening the parking lot are all tremendous upgrades to anything like it along the Avenue.

Finally, as a business owner I want to emphasize my support of their CUP and variance requests for the project. The Goodwill use and the planned store size are exciting for the Avenue. While the project is clearly transit supportive with its density and site plan, quality parking is critical to all business, and the project team's plans address this well. The set back from the alley, although requiring a variance, is a much better condition than what exists all along the University Avenue alley on the north side of University.

Again, I urge you to support their project.

Sincerely,


Keith Schweiger

VIA EMAIL

January 28, 2014

Daymar Properties, LLC
4190 Vinewood Lane North #111-563
Plymouth, MN 55442-1735

**Chair of Zoning Committee for the
City of St Paul Planning Commission**
c/o Anton Jerve, City Planner
City of Saint Paul
Department of Planning and Economic Development
25 West Fourth Street
1100 City Hall Annex
Saint Paul, MN 55102
Email: Anton.Jerve@ci.stpaul.mn.us

RE: 1221-1225 University Avenue Redevelopment Plans

Dear Chair of Zoning Committee and Mr. Jerve:

I am writing to express my support of the redevelopment plans as submitted to the City of St Paul for the new two-story Goodwill facility at 1221-1225 University Avenue. I respectfully encourage your full support as well. As a business owner and commercial neighbor, I want to emphasize that I support the Driessen Group's CUP and variance requests for the project.

I have owned and managed commercial property along University Avenue for many years. Daymar Properties, LLC owns the property immediately to the west of the former Whitaker Buick facility. Goodwill's planned retail and collection operation will be an excellent enhancement to our immediate intersection and the University Avenue community.

The Goodwill use and the planned store size are exciting for the University Avenue community. Economically viable quality parking is critical to all businesses in the area, and the project team's plans address that need adequately. The site plans and their relationship to the alley are very clean. The exterior building design and material qualities planned will be a very positive long-term addition to the University Avenue community. The trellis detailing, the pedestrian friendly area, and the landscaping along the sidewalk screening the parking lot are all welcome upgrades to the immediate area.

Again, I urge you to support their project.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Vincent

President

Daymar Properties, LLC

Jerve, Anton (CI-StPaul)

From: Vince Driessen <vdriessen@DRIESSENGROUP.COM>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2014 12:25 PM
To: Jerve, Anton (CI-StPaul)
Cc: Brian Alton; Vince Driessen
Subject: FW: Erin Pavlica 1226 Charles Ave. - support file #13-260-424

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Anton,
Below is a letter of support from a residential neighbor.
Thank you for including it.
Vince

Vincent J. Driessen

The Driessen Group, LLC

4999 France Avenue, Suite 216
Minneapolis, MN 55410
Cell Phone: 612-202-9752
Office Phone: 612-313-0105
Facsimile: 612-338-8971
Email: vdriessen@driessengroup.com

Please note the new contact information.

From: Erin Pavlica [<mailto:lunawolf7@msn.com>]
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2014 12:14 PM
To: Vince Driessen
Subject: Erin Pavlica 1226 Charles Ave.

Hello Vince and city staff,

Originally when I heard about Goodwill moving two blocks from me, I was both excited and concerned. I live on Charles at Griggs, two streets that have been identified as bikeways. I volunteered many hours over the course of 2.5 years to help finalize the Charles Avenue plan with the Central Corridor Friendly Streets Project so when I heard that there would be an increase in traffic on Griggs, it didn't settle very well with me. I was originally not informed about the first meeting since I am on Charles. This upset me so I became vocal about it via social media. A friend's husband, who works for Goodwill, made it a point to bring my concerns to the appropriate people which is when I received a call from Vince. I was impressed that he reached out. Myself and my neighbour's then received notice in the mail that they would be holding another meeting so we could see the plans.

I like the plans overall and honestly think bringing Goodwill right to University will be a great thing as far as access via the light rail. For employees and shoppers. We are a one car family so I use public transportation, my bicycle, and feet most of the time! I am also a thrifter and believe in zero waste. I, however, was concerned that the donation drop-off would be an issue in the alley that shares IMMEDIATE space with my neighbour's. I

was very happy to hear, after we voiced our concerns, that the drive-thru would then be enclosed, moved to the parking lot, and have limited drop-off hours. I understand that no furniture will be taken at this site either. I am still weary that dumping won't be an issue. Being so close to University, my particular alley sees dumping every single spring. Carpet, tires, old grills, furniture, you name it and it has probably been dumped there.

Even though I am weary, all of this communication with Vince, gives me great hope that Goodwill will be an upstanding neighbour and take care of problems right away. I haven't heard anything about limited parking in the neighbourhood but I am sure this will be addressed once the light rail starts running. I still hope that there will be plenty of signage while exiting the University/Sherburne shared alley alerting people to watch for pedestrians AND cyclists on Griggs.

I wish I could make it to the hearing today but I could not find childcare and my big kids get off the bus at 3:30 pm.

Thank you for your time,
Erin Pavlica
1226 Charles Ave
Saint Paul, MN 55104

Subject: FW: 1221 University - staff report and agenda