

5-13-22

**Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)**

**From:** Karpen, Brian (CI-StPaul)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2022 7:58 AM  
**To:** Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul); Ubl, Stephen (CI-StPaul); Palm, Michael (CI-StPaul)  
**Cc:** Magner, Steve (CI-StPaul)  
**Subject:** RE: 678 Snelling Ave N

Bel-ga-la  
call 651-815-9367  
646 9411 x+2

Marcia:

There is no need for bracing to be installed at this point.

Trusses carry load with tension in the bottom chord and compression in the top chord. The strength of any member in compression is related to it's unbraced length. The longer the unbraced length the more likely a compression member is to buckle and fail. Additionally trusses of this type with a bottom chord bearing point can roll when loaded, if unbraced. In this case the wood framing of the roof provides near continuous bracing to the top chord of the truss. Though there are some holes in the roof as noted, the roof diaphragm is largely in tact and can provide the proper bracing for the top chord. The concern for bracing will arise if large portions of the wood framing attached to any one truss is removed. Bracing, if needed, would only be required during the removal and replacement of the wood roof structure between steel trusses.

I will let Steve and Mike weigh in on time limits. The building is intact and stable at this point. There are holes in the roof and any additional water infiltration may continue to degrade the roof structure and other building features if left open too long.

→ Roof Rep'd -  
also 6/14  
going ahead w/ design etc.

**Brian Karpen, PE (MN)**  
*Structural Engineer*

**From:** Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul) <marcia.moermond@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 4:14 PM  
**To:** Karpen, Brian (CI-StPaul) <brian.karpen@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Ubl, Stephen (CI-StPaul) <stephen.ubl@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Palm, Michael (CI-StPaul) <michael.palm@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
**Cc:** Magner, Steve (CI-StPaul) <steve.magner@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
**Subject:** 678 Snelling Ave N

Good Day Gentlemen!

I don't know if you have been provided a copy of the attached report. I am assuming not. However, I understand that you were able to review this site following the fire on February 22. I think that both of our offices were looking for this engineering analysis to be done.

I am hoping you can lend your expertise and advise me on next steps. I anticipate it will be awhile before the owners have the funding together to get the building rehabbed and I am definitely babysitting this one. Because it will be awhile, I am wondering whether additional extensions of time to do the rehab should be conditioned on the owner taking steps to mitigate any hazardous conditions. Specifically, when I look at page 8 of the attached report, it indicates "temporary lateral bracing may be required in the construction process." Does this in any way intimate we should be looking at requiring bracing while we wait for them to get ready to eventually pull permits? Is this something we should ask to revisit in a specific number of months?