

From: Dan Carlson <dancarlson2929@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, November 3, 2019 11:10 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3 <Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Cc: McMahon, Melanie (CI-StPaul) <Melanie.McMahon@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Kelley, Pattie (CI-StPaul) <pattie.kelley@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; barbara.pilling@gmail.com

Subject: File #19-081671 Tangletown Bustos Garage Variance

Dear Councilman Chris Tolbert,

I write to you to request support in our appeal to rescind a decision by the Board of Zoning and Appeal approving my neighbors variances to build a large garage next door to our home, File #19-081671. My wife, neighbors and I will be appearing before the City Council's public hearing on November 6 @ 5:30pm to publicly request this rescission. Our request comes in three parts:

- 1) That the mechanism for voicing objections to the variances was broken.
- 2) That the variance allows a very large structure in our backyard that is Out-Of-Scale with our neighborhood.
- 3) There are more disagreements with this variance by neighborhood homeowners than was reported.

Our original objections to the variances were never reported during the Board of Zoning and Appeal public hearing on October 7, 2019, even though we had previously emailed them to the staff of the Department of Safety and Inspections. According to Dan Niziolek, his office is understaffed and a key member was on military leave at the time.

The approval of this variance by the Macalester Groveland District Council was made with little public notice. Few of the neighbors in our alley neighborhood were aware the District Council's review. There was no notice given to the neighbors, except inclusion in their September 25th online agenda. We think the Mac-Groveland Council's approval of this variance should be ignored.

The proposed accessory structure is a three car, two story garage, that the homeowner wants to also leverage for woodworking, metalworking, collaboration with other artists and family hobbies. The proposed garage foundation would be twice as large as any other garage on our alleyway. In fact, with the inclusion of the second floor square footage, this garage is three or four times larger than any other garage on our alleyway. There are 4 homes closer to this proposed garage than the homeowner proposing it, and all of them oppose the variance.

We have collected additional support and signatures of our neighbors voicing opposition to this variance. At least four contiguous property owners object to this variance, and several other nearby homeowners.

In conclusion, we again request your support in rescinding the BZA approval and denying this variance. Please find our appeal attached.

Regards,
Dan Carlson
Barbara Pilling
141 S. Wheeler Street
St. Paul, 55105