

St Paul City Council

15 Kellogg Blvd., West

Saint Paul, MN 55102

Slade: Creative Organizing

377 University Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55103

June 9, 2014

Dear Council Members

I have been working as an organizer and a consultant along University Avenue for over 7 years. During that time, the Green Line light rail project has brought many changes and challenges to the Avenue. With the line about to open, we are entering an era of positive change and vitality.

The Little Mekong Night Market is a part of that positive change. It will bring a happy, family-friendly experience to what would be empty dark parking lot just off the Western station area. The Market will bring together community and create a sense of place along the Avenue that the light rail and transit-oriented development is intended to create.

It will increase security as many eyes will be watching areas normally left hidden. It will create unity where the different cultures of the Avenue can come together. It will do this with art and joy.

I support the sound variance to let the Night Market have amplified music on the soundstage. The placement of the stage will minimize the impact on local residences, yet create a positive energy and a center for the Market. I am confident that the Market will operate within the parameters of it's permit.

John Slade

Slade: Creative Organizing of People, Money and Ideas