

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

To the City Council of Saint Paul:

I oppose the expansion of the Twin Cities German Immersion charter School (TCGIS), and specifically the demolition of the former St. Andrew's church, a historically significant building in the Warrendale neighborhood of St. Paul that contributes to the architectural richness and charm of our city. I am not against TCGIS educating children. I am rallying against a bad plan which I find disrespectful and harmful to the health and history of a neighborhood.

- Saint Paul's comprehensive plan states that the greenest building is the one left standing. In Saint Paul, there are examples of former churches reused for performance spaces, homes, and a charter school. If demolished, embodied energy calculators shared by HPC estimate it will send over 2,000 tons to the landfill and have a huge impact on the neighborhood. Demolition is not consistent with Mayor Carter's initiative to be carbon-neutral by 2050.
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- It's worth reading the article (<https://progressive.org/magazine>) "*The Charter School Next Door, What Happens When Public Education Becomes a Market place?*" that discusses the negative impacts charter schools have on neighborhoods and traditional public schools nationwide. Minnesota is the only state that allows charter schools to be exempt from anti-segregation laws.
- The St. Paul Chapter of NAACP and St. Paul Federation of Educators agree object to the expansion of a charter school that is nearly 90% white and far more affluent than other St. Paul schools. The TCGIS expansion plan does not align with Mayor Carter's initiative to combat inequity.

St. Andrew's is irreplaceable.

Signed: _____

James A. Belland
6051 Foxtail Dr.
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

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We hope our elected officials will take seriously the commitment to equity that's at the forefront of Mayor Carter's initiative to reduce citywide disparities—and not bow to pressure exerted by TCGIS or its controversial TenSquare consultants.

Signed: Mrs. Pat Laehlein
2201 Irene St.
Roseville, MN 55113

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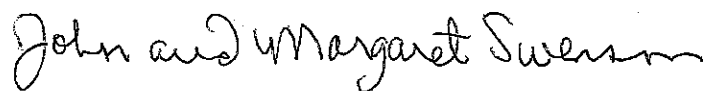
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Signed:

Edward J. Kern
Gloria J. Kern

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Signed:

Kathy Sullivan

I feel very strongly about TCGIS not expanding into the neighborhood. It is too small of a footprint and most students are not from St. Paul. They have other options which are less controversial.

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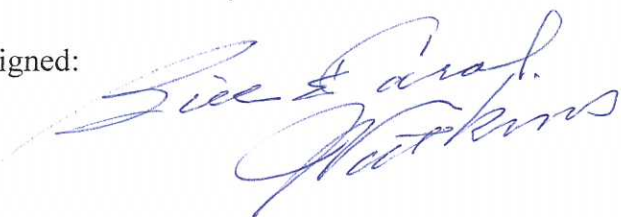
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Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sue & Sarah". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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Signed:

Bertrand and Irene Kolles
former parishioners of St. Andrew's Church

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Signed:

Anna Cenaro

I am in strong opposition of the school expansion
Como Park is my home and I want to preserve
this beauty.

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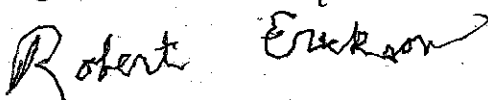
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1137 Chusehill St,
St. Paul, MN 55103

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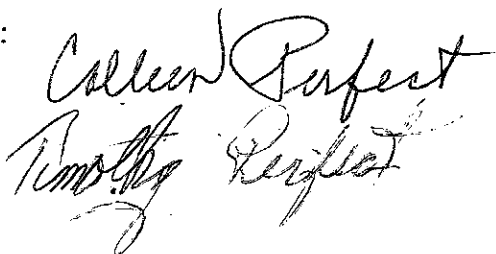
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Colleen Perfect
Timothy Perfect

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- The St. Paul Chapter of NAACP and St. Paul Federation of Educators agree object to the expansion of a charter school that is nearly 90% white and far more affluent than other St. Paul schools. The TCGIS expansion plan does not align with Mayor Carter's initiative to combat inequity.

St. Andrew's is irreplaceable.

Signed:



St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

To the City Council of Saint Paul:

I oppose the expansion of the Twin Cities German Immersion charter School (TCGIS), and specifically the demolition of the former St. Andrew's church, a historically significant building in the Warrendale neighborhood of St. Paul that contributes to the architectural richness and charm of our city. If demolished, embodied energy calculators shared by HPC estimate it will send over 2,000 tons to the landfill and have a huge impact on the neighborhood.

Many of us are opposed to the required variances—including one of the largest parking variances ever requested—but the school has a PR firm lobbying the city council on their behalf. There have also been some related irregularities at the Planning Commission recently that caught the attention of the city attorney's office.

TCGIS is not a neighborhood school, it does not offer enrollment preference to those who live in Saint Paul, essentially, it's a commuter school where most students are driven to school by parents. In fact, almost half of students are not residents of Saint Paul.

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We hope our elected officials will take seriously the commitment to equity that's at the forefront of Mayor Carter's initiative to reduce citywide disparities—and not bow to pressure exerted by TCGIS or its controversial TenSquare consultants.

Signed:



1118 Bayville St
St. Paul, MN

55108

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Signed:

Rich M. Vallet
Kathleen M. Forliti
334 Minnesota Ave
St Paul, MN 55113

Please vote NO!

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Signed:

Mary O. Connolly
3300 Rice #423
Little Canada, 55126
Member of St. Andrew's Church
1925 until it was merged with Maternity

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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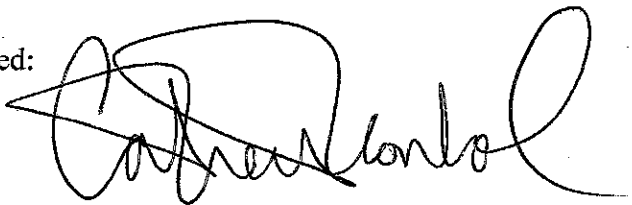
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Signed:

Jean Miller
2670 Oxford St N
STP 55113

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Signed: Zachary Edward Konkol
1098 Oxford STP

Amy Brendmoen, Council President
City Council of Saint Paul
15 Kellogg Blvd West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Sincerely

Gina Mangen
5146 St. Ann's Street
Shoreview MN 55126

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Signed: *Kathleen M Hoffner*
1280 Carpenter Ave W
Apt 114
St. Paul Minnesota
55113

ST. PAUL
RESIDENT

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Signed:

Tim Hess
Former member of
St. Andrew's Parish

St. Paul City Council
c/o Amy Brendmoen, City Council President
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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Signed:

Shirley M. Gallardo
1058 Dale St. N.
St. Paul, MN 55117

Jeffery M Thole
810 Idaho Ave. West
St. Paul, MN 55117
February 20, 2019

Council President Amy Brendmoen
Saint Paul City Hall
320-A 15 Kellogg Blvd. West
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Council President Amy Brendmoen;

As a life long St. Paul District 10 resident, I am writing to OPPOSE expansion of the Twin Cities German Immersion School at its current location. I also specifically OPPOSE demolition of the former St. Andrew's Catholic Church building at 1031 Como Ave. Saint Paul.

According to the Twin Cities German Immersion School website, TCGIS currently has 585 students on less than 1/2 city block of land. And according to stats put out by the Minnesota Association of Charter Schools, TCGIS is already the most densely populated primary school in the City of St. Paul. Lets not make a bad situation worse.

The TCGIS plan was developed with minimal community input. I myself did not even hear of the plan until after it was approved by the TCGIS Board. The proposed plan creates additional noise, safety, parking, and traffic issues. The proposed plan also adversely affects the historic character of the Como Warrendale neighborhood.

Perhaps even more alarming, is the lack of diversity at TCGIS and other local charter schools. This particular charter school is 87% white, while the surrounding community is only 29 % white. This is an upsetting trend, basically reversing years of purposeful integration within the St Paul Public School system. The St. Paul Federation of Teachers and the St. Paul Chapter of NAACP both OPPOSE the TCGIS expansion plans.

With all due respect, TCGIS has better options such as limiting enrollment (like several other great St. Paul schools), adaptive reuse of the church building to better use the existing space, and /or the possibility of moving to a larger site. There are two recently vacated schools just blocks away from TCGIS, it would make no sense to build additional classrooms in the very same neighborhood.

Most Sincerely,


Jeffery M Thole

