

**From:**

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 05, 2016 1:28 PM

**To:** \*CI-StPaul\_Contact-Council

**Subject:** MRCCA protection

Please pass this on to the Council Members:

Dear St. Paul Council Member,

I have been reading about the reconsideration of the rules governing development near the Mississippi River corridor. As I recall, the current rules were established many years ago and have served the public well--they make sense and recognize our unique river conditions that have been available to people from near and far. Now, with the advent of new developments near the river, there are those who wish to relax those rules to benefit the developers and the wealthy, at the expense of the vast majority of people that now enjoy these special places along this special river. Specifically, **I am opposed to several of the DNR rule change proposed.** For instance, these proposed rule changes reduce the current protection of the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA). This is especially true within St. Paul where an allowed building height of 65 feet is proposed (and even greater could be allowed with a Conditional Use Permit). This change will negatively affect all of us except for the few who will be able to afford the developments. Similarly, I believe the proposal weakens slope definitions that will allow development at some of the bluffs, in the only natural gorge on the Mississippi. Please resist the urge to make a short term gain that degrades our urban park system--especially the Mississippi National River & Recreation Area--and other locations that make St. Paul and the MRCCA so special.

**Please preserve the MRCCA for me and for our future generations.**

Thank you for your consideration of my opinions,

Paul D. Mitchell

*A lover of the Mississippi since I moved here in April of 1964*