



May 5, 2025

UPDATED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Sound Level Variance

Shine in the World Ministries – Merge Twin Cities

Dear Saint Paul Property Owner:

This is to inform you of a request for a sound level variance as required by Saint Paul Legislative Code Chapter 293. Property owned by you may be affected by this request. Rental property owners must provide a copy of this notice to all renters or post a copy in a common area of the building for tenants to read.

Location: 75 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd – Minnesota State Capitol Grounds

Request: Marketa Smith and Sydney Rheeder, Shine In The World Ministries, have requested a sound level variance for 92 dBA at 150 feet from the sound source, to present amplified sound for the Merge Twin Cities event for the hours of 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., with a pre-event sound check at 1:00 p.m. on Friday June 6 and 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., with a pre-event sound check at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday June 7, 2025. The Department of Safety and Inspections will be recommending the following:

- 1) The Variance shall be for the hours of 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., with a pre-event sound check at 1:00 p.m. on Friday June 6, and 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. with a pre-event sound check at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday June 7, 2025.
- 2) All electronically powered equipment used in conjunction with the event shall not exceed 100 dBA as measured at 75 feet from all sound sources outside during the hours of 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., with a pre-event sound check at 1:00 p.m. on Friday June 6, and 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. with a pre-event sound check at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday June 7, 2025. All pre-event sound checks shall not exceed 80 dBA as measured at 50 feet from the sound source.
- 3) The applicant shall continuously monitor the decibel level from the variance approved distance of each noise source throughout the duration of the variance and create a report that records the decibel levels at intervals no greater than 10 minutes apart. The report shall be available for viewing by city staff, upon request. The applicant shall provide personnel and equipment who shall provide continuous sound level monitoring at the sound source during the hours of the variance.
- 4) All electronically powered equipment, PA systems, loudspeakers or similar devices shall be turned off no later than 10:00 p.m. on June 6, and June 7, 2025.

Submit comments:

The public may comment on public hearing items in person, in writing or via voicemail. Comments may be submitted in writing to Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us, CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us, or by voicemail at 651-266-6805. Live testimony will be taken in person in the Council Chambers, and by telephone by registering to speak by noon on the day before the meeting. The registration link is located on the City Council website at www.stpaul.gov/council.

Any comments and materials submitted by 12:00 pm of the day before the meeting, Tuesday, May 20, 2025, will be attached to the public record and available for review by the City Council.

A public hearing before the City Council on this variance request will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, May 21, 2025
Time: 3:30 p.m.
Location: 3rd floor, City Hall Council Chambers

After the public hearing, the Council may grant, deny, or modify the variance request.

Questions about the sound level variance can be directed to: Barb McMonigal-St.Dennis, Environmental Health Specialist, 651-266-9137, barb.mcmonigal-st.dennis@ci.stpaul.mn.us