

Dear Councilman Lantry,

My name is Charlie Peterson, I am a student going into my Senior year at the University of St Thomas. I am writing to you to express my full opposition to the student-housing ordinance (Ordinance 12-34 [Version 3]) which is coming to a vote on June 27,2012.

I, like many St Thomas students have moved off campus to save money on housing. Living at St Thomas costs just under \$1000 a month for a four person apartment, that is on top of the \$18000 a semester tuition. I have taken on the responsibility of paying for my college education. I have worked hard throughout my three years of undergraduate education and I have been rewarded with scholarships, exceptional grades, and an internship at Target corporate. During the school year I work close to 30 hours a week while taking a full class load and being involved in multiple extracurricular activities. Living off campus has always been a way for me to save money. I do not live off campus to be a nuisance to the neighbors or to cause the city of Saint Paul any problems. This ordinance will force myself, or one of my roommates, to move out of the house that we have all been living in for the past two years. We have never received any complaints from any of the neighbors that surround us. We have represented the University well; we don't think it's fair for the City of St Paul to punish us for doing nothing wrong.

If you must pass this ordinance please offer some type of Grandfather period for those students that have already signed year long leases, which started on the first of June. You will be putting many students in a very tough place. Money is tight as it is for students, making housing more expensive and harder to find is not the answer. Please consider alternate ways to control the student population. I apologize on behalf of all the college students that have caused problems for the City.

For these reasons, please vote against the student-housing ordinance on Wednesday. Thank you.

Regards

Charlie Peterson

University of St Thomas

Class of 2013

Dear Councilwoman Lantry,

My name is Paul Runge, a student of Macalester College, and I am writing to express my full opposition to the student-housing ordinance (Ordinance 12-34 [Version 3]) coming to a vote on June 27, 2012.

I have recently spoken to a fellow Macalester student who chatted with your colleague, Councilman Tolbert, at the Twin Cities' Pride Parade on Sunday. Councilman Tolbert confessed that in the past 3 days alone he has received over 30 emails from Macalester students rallying against the housing ordinance soon coming to a vote. Although you may not have been the direct recipient of this volume of testimony, I urge you to consider the typical Macalester student's perspective:

It is my understanding that the ordinance would disproportionately affect Macalester students by increasing competition for off-campus housing, driving up rent and forcing students to search further afield for off-campus options. As only 8% of Macalester students own cars, it is vital that we retain full ability to live near campus.

Moreover, it seems that the ordinance does little to address nuisances (noise, etc.). While, as a student of Macalester College, I acknowledge that these issues exist, they are much more aptly addressed by city actions such as the current Social Host law.

Finally, I submit that living off-campus is an incredibly valuable experience for students and the Twin Cities alike. It fosters a strong connection between students and their neighborhoods, making them much more likely to decide to keep their motivated, skilled labor in the Twin Cities post-graduation.

For these reasons, please vote against the student-housing ordinance on Wednesday.

If, however, you cannot fully oppose the ordinance, please consider putting off the vote until fall, when a united student voice can be heard. That this whole process is being concluded in the

summer, when most students have gone or are not fully engaged, suggests that the voice of students is not needed, considered, or welcomed on this issue.

Regards,

Paul Runge

Macalester College, Class of 2013

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Macalester College '13, Dept. of Economics
La Universidad Carlos III in Madrid, Humanidades
Economic Advancement Division, CLUES

www.clues.org

[\(414\) 861-7867](tel:(414)861-7867)

Dear Councilwoman Lantry,

My name is Lydia Lippold-Gelb, a student of Macalester College, and I am writing to express my full opposition to the student-housing ordinance (Ordinance 12-34 [Version 3]) coming to a vote on June 27, 2012.

It is my understanding that the ordinance would disproportionately affect Macalester students by increasing competition for off-campus housing, driving up rent and forcing students to search further afield for off-campus options. As only 8% of Macalester students own cars, it is vital that we retain full ability to live near campus.

Moreover, it seems that the ordinance does little to address nuisances (noise, etc.). While, as a student of Macalester College, I acknowledge that these issues exist, they are much more aptly addressed by city actions such as the current Social Host law.

Finally, I submit that living off-campus is an incredibly valuable experience for students and the Twin Cities alike. It fosters a strong connection between students and their neighborhoods, making them much more likely to decide to keep their motivated, skilled labor in the Twin Cities post-graduation.

For these reasons, please vote against the student-housing ordinance on Wednesday. Thank you.

Regards,

Lydia Lippold-Gelb

Macalester College, Class of 2014

Dear Councilwoman,

My name is Carey Hert, a student of Macalester College, and I am writing to ask that the vote on the student-housing ordinance (Ordinance 12-34 [Version 3]) be postponed until fall.

As far as I am aware, no steps have been made to hold a public hearing on the Macalester College campus regarding this issue, nor have city council representatives been sent to hear the side of the people most adversely affected by the proposed ordinance. That this whole process is being concluded in the summer, when most of us have gone to other parts of the country or are not fully engaged, suggests that the voice of students is not needed, considered, or welcomed on this issue. This is disappointing. The decision on the ordinance should, at the very least, be put off until the fall, when students can be informed and make their voices heard.

Living off campus so far has been an invaluable experience for me--not only have I gained responsibility, experience, confidence and pride from living in my own home, I also feel a real bond with the greater community and identify with the neighborhood and greater city. I find it very important that every student has the same opportunity I did. It will certainly increase everyone's quality of life and keep Macalester's popularity and reputation on the rise.

Please postpone the vote on the student-housing ordinance set for Wednesday. Thank you.

Regards,

Carey Hert, class of 2013

Dear Councilwoman Lantry,

My name is Shasta Webb, a senior at Macalester College, and I am writing to express my full opposition to the student-housing ordinance (Ordinance 12-34 [Version 3]) coming to a vote on June 27, 2012.

It is my understanding that the ordinance would disproportionately affect Macalester students by increasing competition for off-campus housing, driving up rent and forcing students to search further afield for off-campus options. As only 8% of Macalester students own cars, it is vital that we retain full ability to live near campus.

Moreover, it seems that the ordinance does little to address nuisances (noise, etc.). While, as a student of Macalester College, I acknowledge that these issues exist, they are much more aptly addressed by city actions such as the current Social Host law.

Finally, I submit that living off-campus is an incredibly valuable experience for students and the Twin Cities alike. It fosters a strong connection between students and their neighborhoods, making them much more likely to decide to keep their motivated, skilled labor in the Twin Cities post-graduation.

For these reasons, please vote against the student-housing ordinance on Wednesday. Thank you.

Regards,

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Shasta Webb
Macalester College Class of 2013

