

Aug. 24, 2014

Barb. McMonigal - St. Dennis
City of St. Paul - Dept. of Safety and Inspections

Re: Sound Level Variance of St. Thomas Concert,
September, 2014

My husband and I have lived at 102 Exeter Place since 1971. We have until now considered St. Thomas a good neighbor. We have never suffered from the notorious student housing abuses, nor minded increased parking for football games and graduation. And this was before the clamor for parking-by-permit-only which we did not vote for. However, since the advent of the colossal and ostentatious Jumbotron on campus, our view of St. Thomas — its values and its mindless attitude towards the neighborhood — has turned decidedly negative.

The Jumbotron — itself an eyesore — produces decibels of sound never experienced before. It is monumental in size (are they Viking wannabees?) and a monumental testament to the school's adoption of the mentality of "bigger is better" and "louder is better." St. Thomas does not need now — or ever — a variance in sound level. It is already at an oppressive level borne by us the captive audience

Tara Varco