

From: [Tony Deutz](#)
To: [#CI-StPaul_Ward6](#); [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Fw: IMPORTANT re: Hillcrest Master Plan - Highly Concerned Homeowner/Resident/Small Business owner who lives right next to Hillcrest golf course!
Date: Wednesday, May 25, 2022 8:44:53 AM

From: Tony Deutz <tony@deutzlaw.com>
To: ward6@ci.st.paul.mn.us <ward6@ci.st.paul.mn.us>
Cc: contact-Council@ci.st.paul.mn.us <contact-council@ci.st.paul.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2022, 08:36:01 AM CDT
Subject: IMPORTANT re: Hillcrest Master Plan - Highly Concerned Homeowner/Resident/Small Business owner who lives right next to Hillcrest golf course!

Attn: Ms. Nelsie Yang and other City Council Members,

Dear Ms. Yang and members, my name is Anthony Deutz (Tony) and I'm a Twin Cities native and life long resident of the NE Metro except for a few years in Minneapolis in my 20s. **In 2013**, at age 44 (so young lol) I was **lucky enough to purchase my first home at 2128 Cottage Ave. E., St. Paul, MN 55119.**

Besides liking the home itself, which had just been remodeled, I **chose this home because of the dead-end street/cul-de-sac** which *severely limited traffic and essentially prevents property crimes* as well as for **the golf course** which keeps (kept) my neighborhood **extremely quiet**, especially at night. Seriously, if you haven't been to my neighborhood, come here after 8 or 9 pm and you will see what I mean. I'm close enough to the golf course that I found golf balls in my yard several times/week when it was open. It was completely worth it because of the green space that looked great and because of the safe/peaceful/quiet nights.

I was thoroughly *devastated* when I heard the golf course was closing and equally devastated that I was slow to get information as to the Master plan. That is partly on me for not staying in tune with the city council and the dealings at the golf course, but I also had serious family issues to address that redirected my attention - my mom's Alzheimer's). Despite being late to the game, I very much hope my voice can still be heard. I will be as brief as possible and I'm willing and able to provide follow-up responses or answer any questions for council members.

More than anything, *I would like to keep my neighborhood quiet and my street closed off from traffic.* Again, this is why I bought my home. The dead end keeps things quiet and *severely limits crime* (I keep my doors unlocked a lot of the time and feel completely safe in my neighborhood but don't tell the criminals this lol). Something tells me I may have lost this battle, but if not - please keep it closed!

If the street *must* be opened for reasons I don't know or understand, then I find myself looking at these 2 plans in front of me that trigger grossly different emotions/reactions.

The first plan says it's the 2022 **Hillcrest Master Plan/Port Authority**. **This plan makes me want to put my house up for sale tomorrow** (although I won't because I'm not in that frame of mind and I don't know that it's a great time to sell unless you have something else already set up - and I don't). I'm furious that anyone would consider turning this huge amount of GREEN SPACE into an industrial park. WTH?? Seriously? I beg you not to do that. *I can think of nothing worse, except perhaps making it a sewage wasteland, stockyard, or junk yard.* Do any of the people who voted on this live right near the golf course? I think the

answer must be a resounding NO because you would want to keep things how they are. PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS.

The second plan I'm looking at (on a flyer I rec'd) says **Green Alternative**. While this plan doesn't exactly have me jumping for joy (because I would no longer have greenspace to the right out of my picture window), **I may actually be able to live with this proposal**. I *would strongly prefer greenspace to stay out my window and very strongly prefer that Cottage does NOT turn into a through street* (because I'd undoubtedly have to start locking my doors and garage etc. and I'd likely regret having purchased this home) but at least if the Green Alternative plan were chosen, *it would not be a total destruction of everything that made me move here and what still keeps my neighborhood safe for me and my dogs and my neighbors and guests and everything that keeps our neighborhood quiet!!!* **The Master Plan would take all of it away!**

While my voice may not be chiming in in a timely manner , I would not be able to forgive myself if I didn't at least share how I feel about this disastrous plan (specifically, the 2022 Hillcrest Master Plan). *Please, I beg of you, please save our neighborhood by ditching the awful and thoroughly destructive Hillcrest Master Plan!!*

Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter. I truly appreciate it!

Tony Deutz

As a side note, I'm also owner of a small business established in St. Paul in 2010 (Deutz Law, LLC). I practice criminal defense and family law and a huge percentage of my practice is dedicated to a non-profit (CDSI - Criminal Defense services, Inc.). We help lower income individuals in Ramsey County who don't qualify for a Public Defender, but can't pay full price for an attorney (I'm also a former public defender in Ramsey County). There are about 15 attorneys and we take turns volunteering at arraignment calendars (first appearances at Maplewood and Downtown courthouses). We are available to speak with people who were denied a public defender for income reasons to see if we can offer our services at a reduced rate (sliding fee scale). Just throwing that out there in case having my business here also makes any difference. Thank you.

Please forgive any typos as I threw this email together in about 13 minutes. And I don't have time to edit! Thank you!!

TD

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