

From: [Joshua Phillips](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul](#); [Contact-Council](#); [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Subject: Regarding the hearing 5/17/23 @330 for ROK Eatery sound variance
Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 7:15:25 PM

Esteemed council members,

I am writing to you regarding the sound variance request made by ROK Eatery owner Travis Wycislak for Sundays 1pm-6pm 6/4 - 9/24 of this year. As a resident of the Schmidt Artist Lofts, which building (and my unit in particular) are separated from ROK's outdoor patio area only by a very small parking lot, I would like to voice my concern about this. As it is, there are a handful of events each year (notably Schmidt's own hosting of Oktoberfest) which create quite a disruptive and significant auditory burden. If this request was for an individual special event, I would not be writing, but the idea that every leisurely Sunday afternoon for the entirety of summer and into fall be replaced by a boisterous live music event, the contents and participation of which none of the many residents of Schmidt have any control over, is untenable. I understand that Travis is attempting to save his business, and I respect the difficulties of being a small business owner in our current economy, but it strikes me as inappropriate to place the burden of one's own personal financial success on anyone other than oneself, much less an entire population of residents for whom the distance from the event even while sitting at home will be dramatically insufficient to reduce the proposed 90 decibel sound production to a level below that which either focusing on the sound or drowning it out with your own become the only options. A person should have the option to simply sit inside their home on a weekend afternoon and enjoy their own ambience, and I think suggesting to take that away from someone is beyond the purview of any individual's decision. It is for these reasons that I strongly object to the permittance of this sound variation and I would implore the council to consider the volume (pardon the pun) of people affected by both the potential decision to allow, as well as to disallow, and consider the total sum of human life impacted by each possible decision.

If you've read this entire message, I thank you for your time and attention. Regardless of your decision, I respect the stress that certainly accompanies a job in which your choices affect so many people, and I wish you all excellent summers.

Joshua