From: Chelda
To: CouncilHearing (CI-StPaul); *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Subject: Support for Benegas" variance request
Date: Friday, December 6, 2024 4:58:37 PM

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Dear St. Paul City Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for Ruben and Michelle Benegas's variance request for 1963 Grand Avenue. As a homeowner on Grand Avenue and a faculty member at the University of St. Thomas, I have a unique perspective on the need for increased housing options in our neighborhood and the broader community.

The University of St. Thomas is a vital part of our city, and we are committed to providing our students with a high-quality education. However, upon moving off campus, many of our students face significant challenges in finding affordable housing and reliable parking. The proposed development at 1963 Grand Avenue would help to alleviate these issues by providing much-needed housing options for students and other residents.

Additionally, this project aligns perfectly with Saint Paul's 2040 Comprehensive Plan. It calls for increased development, green energy use, and growth opportunities for all citizens. The proposed development will contribute to these goals by creating new housing units, reducing the need for car ownership, providing more parking options on Grand, and promoting sustainable living.

I urge the St. Paul City Council to approve the Benegas's variance request. This project will benefit our community by providing much-needed housing, promoting sustainable development, and supporting the growth of our city.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Chelda Kondo