From: Rachael Weber
To: Contact-Council@ci.mn.us; CouncilHearing (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Public comment for hearing for Roy Street Shelter (ZF #24-088-519)
Date: Monday, December 9, 2024 9:56:57 AM

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Hello,

I am a neighbor on Roy Street North, where there is a proposed permit to allow an overnight shelter for over 60 adults.

Being a mother with small children, who is often walking around the neighborhood or out for runs, I am extremely concerned about the safety issue this poses for both my children, the neighborhood children, and my many immigrant neighbors who will likely not have the time or knowledge of the process to attend this hearing.

A shelter for unhoused folks sounds harmless, but having an overnight shelter will not address the route cause of homelessness, rather it will attract more transient individuals to hang around the residential area during the day. This is a small residential community, one that works to keep each other safe and build a sense of home within a larger urban community. The safety issues posed by having an overnight shelter across the street from and next door to residential homes are not acceptable. drug abuse, mugging, petty theft, carjacking, and harassment are all by products of these "shelters" that the residents will have to deal with during the day. As someone who used to live near the shelter in lower down saint paul, I know all too well the issues that arise.

The light rail has already brought a great deal of crime and vagrant people to this area, and sometimes that is just the price we pay as a city that is growing and changing, but having an overnight shelter here on Roy street would put an undue burden on the families that live here, many of them immigrant and low income.

Thank you for your consideration.