JB VANG

JBV Comments

Saint Paul City Council

10/22/2025

President Noecker and Saint Paul City Councilmembers –

My name is Ashley Bisner, and I am the Vice President of Development at JB Vang. Thank you for considering the designation of the Theodore Hamm Brewing Company District as a Heritage Preservation Site.

As the designated tentative developer of this site since 2023, we remain committed to delivering a vibrant community-oriented development that will benefit the neighborhood and the city. We know that renovating and restoring historic buildings like these, which have been vacant and in decline since 1997, is much more expensive than new construction, and tax credits are a tool intended to bridge this gap. Creating a local historic district will unlock the necessary historic tax credits and ensure the history here is preserved.

This designation is a crucial step in honoring Saint Paul's rich past while building for its future. Our plan to renovate the historic brewery buildings into artist style lofts and a commercial marketplace is exactly the kind of adaptive reuse that preserves our heritage. It's a smart way to ensure these iconic structures remain a vibrant part of our city's fabric. It's a win-win for preservation and progress.

JB Vang has shown good faith by listening to the community and has made accommodations that include more parking and a willingness to work with existing businesses and neighbors.

I encourage the Council to proceed with the historic designation, unlocking access to historic tax credits that will bring to life an authentic and community-focused revitalization.

Thank you very much for your time.

Advisory | Management Development | Facilities
1335 Pierce Butler Route | St. Paul, MN 55104
Office: 651.645.5500 | Fax: 651.350.1860 | www.jbvang.com
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