Mai Vang

From: Nicole Brown <nicolebrownets@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 10:18 AM
To: *CI-StPaul_LegislativeHearings
Subject: CVS building hearing- my view as a 6th generation Midway resident

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Leaders and Policymakers,

The neglected building that used to be CVS does not benefit my Midway neighborhood. It does not nurture or define our community identity. It does not build or support our local economy. It does not foster frequent and meaningful contact. It does not create improved accessibility. It does not promote a sense of comfort. It does not draw the diversity of our population in Midway or any other surrounding people. There is no environmental resilience/adaptation/green space to it. It has no function and no purpose.

I see the building's presence in our place as a greedy placeholding, an act of contempt,entitlement, and control to retain corporate investment in the property as a statement of "Midway ran us down, let them live with the ugliness and neglect as our defiance in letting Midway run us out." But it's long past time for them to go, to turn our place over to the people of Midway. For CVS to let go or get booted out, and for Midway to reclaim our place, would be an act of collective justice and liberation both, to us all. This corner in our busiest area in Midway can be the beginning of a reimagining of our place identity, our place belonging, and an example of what Midway expects of sustainability to our culture. Tear the building down. We need to reclaim our place now.

Nicole Brown
6th-generation Midway resident