Shari Moore - zoning change letter

From: "Reid, Tom" <treid@WILD.com>

To: "lucy.thompson@ci.stpaul.mn.us" <lucy.thompson@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, "jessic...

Date: 9/7/2011 7:22 AM **Subject:** zoning change letter

September 7, 2011

To: Saint Paul Planning Commission/ St Paul City Council Lucy Thompson, Jessica Rosenfeld

Re: Proposed Zoning Change in Area 9

From: Tom Reid - Owner

Tom Reid's Hockey City Pub

As a business owner in Saint Paul, I strongly object to the proposal to the zoning changes from B-3 General Business to T-2 Traditional Neighborhood in Area 9.

Since 1999 I have been involved in the restaurant business at 258 west 7th Street in Saint Paul. I have seen the positive effect brought forth by the construction of the Xcel Energy Center, RiverCenter, United & Children's Hospital, Nasseff Heart Institute and the Science Museum here in St Paul-just to name a few.

As a result of these additions to St Paul, many other businesses and the remodeling of many businesses has flourished. You no longer see boarded up windows as was the case for many years along West 7th Street. Just take a walk along our street and you can see the progress.

Others, such as me, have collectively invested millions of dollars in our current business structures to make it more attractive to visitors and to other businesses in our area of West 7th Street.

To handcuff potential possible businesses opportunities from developing by changing zoning regulations would be a disservice to St Paul and to those of us who have invested our lives in creating a positive atmosphere in St Paul.

It would not be in the best interest of St Paul, except perhaps to a few select individuals who do not want progress, to change this zoning regulation now or in the future.

I, as a business owner, welcome competition to our fair city.

Many of my staff of 25 own homes and or reside in St Paul. More business opportunities coming to our area would result in additional revenues to each of us and in the long run would benefit St Paul economically.

It would be nice to see a crane in St Paul actually constructing a new structure. We could certainly use help in making our area more attractive to outsiders considering a move to Minnesota's Capitol City.

A lot has happened along West 7th in the last 10 years.

Please don't stymie business opportunities by making this change.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Yours truly, Tom Reid 651-755-5098