From:	Jenna Sadjadi
To:	Annie Thomas; *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Cc:	*CI-StPaul_LegislativeHearings; #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject:	RE: Ward 2 Constituent – Fence Variance Appeal Today at 3 PM – RLH OA 26-3
Date:	Thursday, September 17, 2026 11:28:10 AM
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png

Hi Annie – Thank you for contacting the Ward 2 office.

When variances come before the Council for consideration, the Council makes a ruling on the item in their quasi-judicial ("judge-like") capacity. When preparing to make a quasi-judicial ruling, Councilmembers are not allowed to speak or correspond on the issue outside of the official public hearing process.

For items like this that come before the Council for consideration, comments can be submitted to be part of the public record by emailing Contact-Council@stpal.gov, and testimony can be given in-person during the council's hearing.

I have included contact-council@stpaul.gov so that this email and your email below can be added to the record accordingly.

The Saint Paul City Clerk (City-Clerk@stpaul.gov) can be contacted with questions about Council processes.

Thank you for contacting the Ward 2 office.

Jenna Sadjadi (she/they)
Executive Assistant to Council President Noecker
Saint Paul City Council - Ward 2
15 W Kellogg Blvd, Room 310B
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-8620 | **www.stpaul.gov/ward2**

From: Annie Thomas <thomasanniem@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 12:17 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2 <Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: *CI-StPaul_LegislativeHearings <LegislativeHearings@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Ward 2 Constituent – Fence Variance Appeal Today at 3 PM – RLH OA 26-3

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from thomasanniem@gmail.com. Learn why this is

> important

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Dear Council President Noecker and Ward 2 Team,

My name is Annie Thomas, and I live at 737 Watson Avenue in Ward 2. I have a fence variance appeal (RLH OA 26-3 / Permit DSIBLDFH-052772-2026) scheduled for a Legislative Hearing at 3:00 p.m. today.

I am sharing this context with your office as the requested relief involves replacing an existing six-foot enclosure on a corner lot, driven by a disability-related safety need for my future Diabetes Assist Dog.

I am not asking the City to compromise intersection visibility. My proposed resolution is to permit the six-foot secure privacy fence along the replacement line outside the required visibility area, while **allowing DSI to require a setback, step-down, open treatment, or taper specifically within the corner area**. Prior Saint Paul fence appeals, such as 706 Canton Street, have used this type of conditioned solution rather than denying the variance entirely.

Attached is a short hearing-day supplement summarizing this proposed resolution and relevant precedent. The complete appeal packet is already part of the Legislative Hearing record.

I am not asking your office to intervene in the administrative hearing, but I wanted you to have this background before the Hearing Officer's recommendation comes before the Council.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Annie Thomas
737 Watson Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-503-7177
RLH OA 26-3 | DSIBLDFH-052772-2026

On Wed, Sep 2, 2026 at 8:59 AM *CI-StPaul_LegislativeHearings <LegislativeHearings@ci.stpaul.mn.us> wrote:

> Hi Ms. Thomas,
>
> Your appeal application is received. Your Legislative Hearing will be scheduled for **Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 330 City Hall/Courthouse**. If you wish to attend via phone, that is another option. Please let me know.

Mai Vang
Legislative Hearing Coordinator
Pronouns: she/her
Saint Paul City Council
310 City Hall, 15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
P 651-266-8563
mai. vang@stpaul.gov
www.StPaul.gov

From: Annie Thomas <thomasanniem@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2026 10:37 AM
To: Morgan Veiman <Morgan.Veiman@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: *CI-StPaul_LegislativeHearings <LegislativeHearings@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Formal Appeal – Fence Variance Denial – DSIBLDFH-052772-2026 – 737 Watson Avenue

You don't often get email from thomasanniem@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

Hi Morgan,

I am writing to formally appeal the denial of my fence variance for **737 Watson Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55102**, Permit **DSIBLDFH-052772-2026**.

Attached is my complete appeal packet for review by the Legislative Hearing Officer. It includes my appeal statement, Premier Fence's proposed site plan and fence specifications, documentation from Can Do Canines regarding my acceptance for a Diabetes Assist Dog and their fencing safety guidance, the PAULIE denial record, and photographs documenting the existing fence and site conditions.

I am requesting approval to replace the deteriorating existing enclosure with approximately **102 linear feet of six-foot cedar privacy fencing with steel posts and a lockable gate**. My request is based on the unique conditions of the corner lot, the existing approximately six-foot enclosure, the condition of the current fence and gates, and the disability-related need for a secure enclosure for my future Diabetes Assist Dog.

I also want to emphasize that I am **not requesting relief from required intersection visibility or public-safety standards**. I am willing to modify the fence specifically within any required corner visibility area through a setback, reduced height, open design, or other configuration acceptable to DSI while maintaining the six-foot secure enclosure along the remainder of the proposed fence line.

The PAULIE record states that the variance was denied and that I may appeal to the Legislative Hearing Officer, but I have not received substantive findings explaining the specific basis for the denial. If there are additional written findings, comments, or documentation from the Building Official regarding the denial, please send those to me so I can make sure any specific concerns are fully addressed.

Please treat this email and the attached packet as my request to proceed with the appeal. Would you please confirm:

- that you received the attached appeal materials;
- whether I need to submit a separate appeal form;
- whether the materials should also be sent directly to Legislative Hearings; and
- the next steps and anticipated hearing date.

Thank you for your assistance.

Annie Thomas
737 Watson Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-503-7177
thomasanniem@gmail.com
Permit DSIBLDFH-052772-2026

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **PAULIE - NoReply** <paulie.noreply@stpaul.gov>
Date: Thu, Aug 27, 2026 at 9:24 AM
Subject: Permit DSIBLDFH-052772-2026
To: thomasanniem <thomasanniem@gmail.com>, ted <ted@premierfence.com>
Cc: Morgan Veiman <Morgan.Veiman@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Hello,

Your fence variance has been denied by the Building Official, Nathan Bruhn.

He noted: May appeal to the legislative hearing officer.

Thank you,

Morgan Veiman

Review Coordinator

Access your record online here

This is a no-reply e-mail address. To contact us, please send an e-mail to Morgan.Veiman@ci.stpaul.mn.us

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Annie Thomas
thomasanniem@gmail.com
651.503.7177

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Annie Thomas
thomasanniem@gmail.com
651.503.7177