

Dear Mr. Bostrom, Ms. Brendmoen, Mr. Carter, Ms. Lantry, Mr. Tolbert, Mr. Stark, and Mr. Thune,

I am writing to strongly support welcoming Cupcake to Grand Avenue.

I live at 849 Laurel Ave, and Mr. Carter is my councilperson. However, I want to tell each of you why I think Cupcake should be allowed to open on Grand.

Cupcake is a delicious destination for more than just cupcakes. Their breakfasts are amazing, and they are a great spot for food anytime. They have good coffee and, of course, the cupcakes are awesome. I go to their University Ave store often, and would love it if they had a location in my neighborhood.

Cupcake would add a great, independent food, coffee and wine option to an ever growing sea of chains on Grand. Additionally, the existing Grand Ave bakeries close early- Woullet is not open on Sunday, Bread and Chocolate closes at 6 pm. We need a great place for treats and good food that is locally owned, and is open from breakfast through dinner.

I also wonder why there so much concern about how Cupcake will create parking tension on Grand. Cupcake has figured out how to accommodate parking needs. Grand is a busy, growing area, and adding one more restaurant to an existing building is not going to tip the balance. People park in the Grand Ave area to go to multiple businesses- adding Cupcake will only help the area.

And speaking of that building- if Cupcake isn't allowed to open there, who will you allow? The ground floor retail is empty now. If you create roadblocks for a real live business to open there, will it just sit empty? I don't think that is better. Cupcake is the best case scenario for that space.

If you allowed Chipotle to come to Grand, I would certainly hope you would roll out the welcome mat for a fantastic, high quality business like Cupcake.

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