

From: Baum, Juergen
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 10:25 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward7
Subject: 2124 Grand Ave Proposal

Based on the information that was provided, I disagree with the current proposal of building a 5 story apartment building on the corner of Grand Ave/Finn.

I am not generally against a new apartment building (which probably would be nicer than the homes that are currently there), but it has to "fit" into the neighborhood. In my opinion, fitting it into the neighborhood has to result in following the same rules and guidelines that St. Thomas had to follow when they build the child development center, which has two levels.

The city council also needs to understand that they are currently dealing with the neighborhood that pays for all of St. Paul's programs (my annual homestead tax RATE increase for 2012 was 12% and my compounded tax rate increase in the last three years was 35%). In allowing developers to decrease the attractiveness of a neighborhood, the city council will jeopardize the long-term financial health of the neighborhood for short-term benefits (if any).

Again, I am not against the building, but I expect the St. Paul city council to have a balanced approach and consider all points of views in this matter. This will hopefully result in a solution that all stakeholder can agree to (nobody will be happy, but a 5 story building with 80 tenants in a residential neighborhood is not acceptable).

Thanks

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