



**CITY OF SAINT PAUL**  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
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August 22, 2012

James Buhler  
4544 – 47<sup>th</sup> Ave S  
Minneapolis MN

VIA EMAIL: [jbinfaux@earthlink.net](mailto:jbinfaux@earthlink.net)

Re: Appeal for property at 237-239 Mackubin Street

Dear Mr. Buhler:

This is to confirm that on August 14, 2012 at the Property Code Hearing, Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer reviewed the staff report from Christine Boulware, Heritage Preservation Commission, which stated that she went to the property to observe the porch railing. She noted that the stairs at 237 do not currently have a handrail. Although it did not have a handrail historically, if required by code, a simple black pipe rail could be installed in a manner that would not damage historic materials and not have a negative visual impact. The installation of a handrail would require HPC review and the railing should either attach into the brick wall into mortar joints or may be anchored to the concrete deck and wall. Based on this information, Ms. Moermond recommended that the City Council deny the appeal on the railing. You may want to contact Ms. Boulware at 651-266-6715 for example of the types of railing that would meet HPC requirement.

The City Council Public Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 300 Council Chambers if you wish to appeal further.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at 651-266-8563.

Sincerely,

NMV

Mai Vang  
Legislative Hearing Coordinator

C: Fire Supervisors (email)  
Sean Westenhofer (email)  
Christine Boulware, HPC (email)