

Dear Members of the City of St. Paul City Council;

My spouse and I are part of thousands and thousands of voters who live and/or work Lowertown. Our condominium that we own is on the second floor of River Park Lofts at the corner of Sixth and Wacouta Streets. We have a perfect view of a large part of the proposed area for expansion of the Sixth Street sidewalk. This project will harm us.

With the City's encouragement, we purchased our home to live our golden years in the historical setting of Lowertown. (We are old enough to have children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.) We love the quality of life that our community offers.

Now, we must again fight to defend our home...our community. This cancerous-like bulge, caused by the unnatural expansion of the sidewalks on the north side of Sixth Street between Wacouta and Sibley Streets, will destroy the fabric of Lowertown. Our home will be ruined.

Efforts by the powerful to force the many to give over their lives and fortunes for the private gain by the very few is wrong.

We, therefore, urge the City of St. Paul, Minnesota, City Council to totally and permanently reject any plan to produce the bulge on Sixth Street.

This project will cause serious traffic jams on Sixth Street during rush hours. Large numbers of cars, tractor-trailer trucks and emergency vehicles regularly travel this street. We have seen many accidents at the corner of Sixth and Wacouta Streets and expect many more caused by the proposed unnatural bulge. Three interstate highways flow into Sixth Street: westbound I-94, eastbound I-94 and southbound I-35E.

Mears Park, the gem and center of Lowertown, will be damaged by the bulge on Sixth Street. The City should always strive to protect this valuable asset.

The expansion will reduce street parking to a dangerous supply that will hurt residents and visitors alike and will harm many Lowertown businesses and may encourage many to close. We do not understand why the City would want to harm the St. Paul Farmers Market.

The bulge will also eliminate parking for the disabled that serves the Skyway YMCA. (We are members of that valuable agency.) Why the City would want to discriminate against the disabled is beyond comprehension.

The proposed expansion of the sidewalks on Sixth Street is bad policy. Please, please reject this terrible project permanently.

Sincerely,

Terry J. Henry PhD

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