From: James McClean [mailto:James@saintpaulchamber.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2013 2:52 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4; #CI-StPaul_Ward5
Cc: #CI-StPaul_Ward1; #CI-StPaul_Ward2; #CI-StPaul_Ward3; #CI-StPaul_Ward6; #CI-StPaul_Ward7; Henningson, Samantha (CI-StPaul); OBrien, Kim (CI-StPaul); Zach Schwartz
Subject: SPACC support for Ord. 13-14

Dear Council Members Brendmoen and Stark,

On behalf of the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce (SPACC), I would like to thank you for being responsive and proactive on the issue of the zoning code as it relates to commercial brewing operations in the city. As you know there is a growing trend of small, local, commercial breweries and an increasing demand for the sale of some of their products onsite. There is a great opportunity for Saint Paul to participate in this growing market, but certain provisions of the current zoning code make that more difficult than in other jurisdictions. We thank you for recognizing this and acting quickly to make the reasonable change proposed at today's public hearing (Ord. 13-14) and prompting the Planning Commission to research additional changes that may be appropriate.

Unfortunately, I have a conflict and cannot attend today's public hearing, but I wanted to express our support and thanks for your work on this issue. It is always great to see concrete examples of elected officials proactively taking steps to make it easier to operate successful businesses in the city and removing unnecessary barriers where they exist in city code. We look forward to seeing the future recommendations from the Planning Commission on this issue and other areas of zoning code reform that will help strengthen the vital Saint Paul business community.

Thanks again, and feel free to contact me with any questions regarding SPACC's support of this initiative.

Sincerely,

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