

Dear Bill,

I am writing to you regarding the Premier Storage proposal to turn the former Schmidt Brewery warehouse into a self-storage facility. I live at 4xx Erie Street, on the corner of Erie and Palace, and I am directly across from the warehouse. Along with Alan Meyer, who is also directly across from the warehouse, I am in favor of the proposal Todd Jones has given to transform the warehouse. The number one reason why I am in favor of this proposal is because it will be low-impact to the neighborhood.

I know there have been proposals to have the warehouse transformed into a Bazaar, restaurant, market, etc. However I believe these should not be *in* the neighborhood, but rather just outside the neighborhood. West 7th Street has a lot of area and opportunity to allow artists to thrive, and the businesses there are a testament to that. There are also art crawls and other artist-related events which are within walking distance for the immediate neighborhood, as well as restaurants and entertainment along West 7th Street. I would be in favor of a section of the warehouse being something like a coffee shop or something else quiet as a compromise, but the majority of the building would be ideal for a storage facility. I am sure many of the residents here decided to live here and continue to live here because it is quiet and there is less traffic than an area closer to downtown. I think this corner of the West 7th area is lucky to have that in an area so close to downtown.

I feel that Todd has been upfront and shown a great amount of effort to inform the neighbors of his plans. The building has gone 6 years without someone stepping up to invest in the property and I would rather the building be put to use than left vacant and to deteriorate. Along with the City of St. Paul and the St. Paul Planning Commission, I would like to see his project go forward and hope the City Council will support his proposal.

Bree Malone

4xx Erie Street