

From: Robert Cook [mailto:rmcook78@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2015 2:44 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4
Subject: RES 15-1604 Stone Saloon

Good afternoon, Councilmember Stark,

We are writing to add our strong support for RES 15-1604, granting the application of Thomas Schroeder for a historic use variance to allow a tap house at 445 Smith Avenue North.

We have been following this project with keen interest over the last year, and are excited about the having such a unique and historic business in our city. Projects such as these define our city's one-of-a-kind character, and we have no doubt that the Stone Saloon will bring no small amount of attention to Saint Paul, nationally as well as internationally.

While we completely understand the apprehension of some of the neighbors in the area, we feel that they misunderstand the sort of business this is envisioned as, as well as the sort of clientele that the Stone Saloon is likely to attract. Furthermore, it is important to understand that cities continuously evolve, and mixing commercial properties in with residential areas help to contribute - not detract - from the sustainability and livability of the urban environment. In short, the benefits this project will bring to the city far outweigh whatever minor inconveniences may occur in the immediate neighborhood.

Although we will not be able to attend next week's hearing on this matter, we wanted to add our voices to the chorus of support for the Stone Saloon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,
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