

Dear council members,

Not that you are going to change your mind with any comments I make or others.

Why are we paying taxes on our houses, rentals..... on a yearly basis. I thought it was for covering city expenses.

Maybe it is time to look at your budget and be fiscally conservative, instead of increasing fees.

Thanks

Shahriar

You need to control costs as opposed to increases pay to your employees. Government employees are becoming an elite with high pay, and benefits that the average citizen. No St. Paul employee should have better pay or benefits than the average citizen in the city of St. Paul.

(Steve Darmer)

What do I pay taxes for? These very services you provide. You mandate! If you can't fund them with the property tax get rid of some of this BS! Raising fee's and telling me for all the benefits of employees? I can't hardly afford my property taxes! I don't get benefits like your employees! I can't wait to retire and move to a cheaper tax zone! Quit spending money like drunken sailors! Come live on my budget for a few months!

To Whom It Might Concern

I would strongly oppose the proposed ordinance amendments raise fees by 3% in each of the following Chapters:

**Chapter 33 (Building Code and Inspection)**

**Chapter 40 (Fire Certificate of Occupancy)**

**Chapter 43 (Vacant Buildings)**

**Chapter 55 - Only Section 55.04 (Tents)**

**Chapter 310 (Business and Animal Licenses and Permits)**

The Building Code and Inspection, Fire Certificate of Occupancy, Vacant Buildings fees have been VERY HIGH ALREADY. All these fees have been put on the property owners who rent out their homes. It is not fair and unjust to add fees or increase fees for these Chapter ordinances. We would like to keep the rent low to help the low-income people. It is very difficult to keep up with the tax increases due to the higher home value, plus the insurance premium.

I would propose amendments and is in favor of reducing all these Fire Certificate of Occupancy or Building Code and Inspection, vacant building fees. Also, by reducing the number of inspections and re-inspections, or issuing less many vacant buildings citation, it decreases the departments' costs.

Thank you very much for your considerations.

Sincerely,

JN

Dear City Folk ~

You keep asking us to dig deeper into our pockets for higher fees here, there, and everywhere.

Some of us retired people reached the bottom of our pockets long ago. Now it's a question of what else do we cut out of our lives? Food? Medications? I figure TV goes next, no that it's a pay-for thing. Seems a pretty dismal prospect. Especially when I know I'm far tighter with spending my nickels than any government agency - which seems to think citizens' pockets always go deeper. They don't.

It's sad and humiliating to have once been middle class and now to live on the edge of the poverty line, while at the same time being "nickel-and-dimed to death." There is NO day that goes by with out worry about money.

Drive around the neighborhoods and look at the houses. It's easy to see where the old people live. Their houses - like my residence (since 1970) are falling into decay.

Who do we tap on the shoulder and say, "Hey! I need more money because of increased expenses!"?

I could cry when I go to various parts of town and look at the idiotic tree-trimming, bad tree-planting practices, lunatic road/median projects, cutaway curbs with dimpled metal plates (which are as slick as Hell when icy), older buildings being torn down (the old Ramsey county Detention Center, the West Publishing Building) that could be re-purposed far more cheaply for office space and other uses than

building new. The coming soccer stadium. the  
Subsidized Saints ballpark.

The Roman philosophy was to give the people bread  
and circuses to keep down disgruntlement and  
insurrection. Well, you people have got the circuses  
part down pretty well. Too bad your philosophy is so  
short on bread.

I wonder how much longer I can afford to live in this  
town, which has been my home for so long.

I hope somebody's listening. I gotta go figure out  
what to do about my Medicare supplement, which is  
going up a bunch next year...

Hanging on by my fingernails,

Kathleen A. Deming

15xx Goodrich

St Paul 55105

To Whom it May Concern

I have just found out about the proposed increases to the building codes, C of O and other items. I am writing in objection to the fee increases. As a property owner in the city of Saint Paul we are already getting taxed at the highest level of taxation. The city of Saint Paul is making it very difficult for investors to come in and run a legitimate business in our city because we are paying 2.2-2.5% of the property value in taxes each year.

These taxes levels are set by the state but Ramsey county decides to charge the max amount. These fees do not include the assessment (tax) we get each year which adds to the already high tax rate.

I love our city and I want it to be great but we need to welcome people who come into our city and build, remodel and clean up nuisance properties. If I could oppose with a solution it would be take the bad landlords and when they have violations and repeat violations and fine them at a rate where they either need to fix the issue for good or sell to people who do want to make our city great.

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Go Spartans,

Rex King  
Simley High School  
Head Football Coach

To Whom it May Concern

Hi I received an email about the proposed increases to the building codes, C of O and other items. I am writing in objection to the fee increases. As not only a citizen of St Paul but also a property owner in the city of St Paul we are already getting taxed at the highest level of taxation. The city of St Paul is making it very difficult for investors to come in and run a legitimate business in our city because we are paying 2.2-2.5% of the property value in taxes each year.

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I enjoy living in St Paul and owning rental property in St Paul. We keep our properties in very nice condition. To increase fees to us does not make sense. It makes us look in other cities to do business. If I could oppose with a solution it would be take the bad landlords and when they have violations and repeat violations and fine them at a rate to make the additional revenue that you are looking for. This will not only get bad landlords out of our city it will increase fee revenue. Don't make the good landlords pay for the bad ones. Thanks for listening to me and hope you take my suggestions seriously. Thanks

Stephen Nesvig



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Bryan Sowieja

I respectfully request that you do not increase the license to keep chickens. We are only allowed four chickens and if we want to raise them for laying, \$50 in addition to providing food each year makes the cost per egg prohibitive. I understand the chicken facility needs to be inspected, but once that is done, there should be little else the city needs to do. I would request that you keep the cost at \$50, and that as a one-time fee, not yearly.

Thank you for considering my request.