



UNION PARK DISTRICT COUNCIL

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February 16, 2016

Saint Paul Planning Commission
25 West Fourth Street, Suite 1400
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Commissioners:

On February 15, 2016, the Union Park District Council Land Use Committee reviewed the modified report and recommendations of the Merriam Park Housing Mix Working Group, and discussed the recommendations with members of the Working Group. The Group's recommendations had been modified to address Committee concerns related to its previous proposal to mandate a distance of 1,320 feet between any instances of all eight named categories of Congregate Living Facilities (CLFs).

The Committee voted unanimously to endorse the updated report and recommendations of the Group, believing that the recommendations reflect the community's desire to better align sober housing regulation with the distance requirements imposed on other congregate living facilities.

Specifically, the Committee endorsed the Working Group's recommendations that the City take the following actions:

- Evaluate the current distance requirement between sober houses and increase it from 330 feet to 1,320 feet if feasible.
- Study sober houses' neighborhood impact, using Merriam Park as a case study.
- Holistically register, track, and forecast all housing types.
- Institute a resident notification requirement that is consistent with the notification given for the other seven types of CLFs.
- Consider instituting licenses and fees in a manner that is consistent among all eight types of CLFs.

Please note that the Committee did **not** endorse the Working Group's recommendation that the distance requirement might apply differently to arterial streets.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Julie Reiter, Executive Director
Union Park District Council