

Dear Members of the City Council,

I believe I understand the thought behind the motion by Council Member Noecker to limit the use of future TIF in the Snelling Midway soccer stadium site and adjacent shopping center property. However, I think that it is unwise to take this development tool away. A lot is happening in some parts of St. Paul, particularly downtown, and it is very positive, but there are large areas of our city that are looking pretty grim. No one is under the illusion that the project is free, but this seems like a fantastic development for the Midway and for the entire city that could grow beyond just the stadium. TIF could be useful to keep things going.

I believe proposals should be examined by the council and evaluated on a case by case basis, not blocked ahead of time with a blanket restriction.

I have absolutely no personal interest in this particular development other than being a citizen of St. Paul.

Dan Mollner
West End