Vang, Mai (CI-StPaul)

From: Aaron Rubenstein <arubenstein@historicsaintpaul.org>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2016 3:10 PM
To: *CI-StPaul_LegislativeHearings
Cc: #CI-StPaul_Ward1; Caty Royce; Carol Carey; Jared Goerlitz; Spong, Amy (CI-StPaul)
Subject: 839 Thomas Avenue

Dear Mai Vang:

Historic Saint Paul, as an organization dedicated to the renewal of Saint Paul neighborhoods and as a partner with Frogtown Neighborhood Association in Preserve Frogtown, opposes demolition of the house at 839 Thomas Avenue (on the legislative hearing agenda for 4.12.2016) and strongly encourages city action to allow its rehabilitation.

It appears that this house is in reasonably good condition and that there is no good or compelling reason to require, in the public interest, its removal. To the contrary, an investment of perhaps $30,000 to rehabilitate it would result in a good quality dwelling unit worth perhaps $130,000 or more. It does not make sense to spend upwards of
$10,000 to destroy this value and to remove a viable residential unit in favor of a vacant lot.

We have heard from several neighborhood residents who support retaining and rehabilitating this house and oppose its demolition.

Historic Saint Paul believes it's important to retain and reuse housing and structures that reinforce the cultural and historic fabric of our city's communities. We encourage the city to work with the new property owner to allow the property to become, once again, an asset to the Frogtown neighborhood.

Sincerely yours,
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