

Legislative Hearing Officer
310 City Hall
14 West Kellogg Blvd
Saint Paul, MN 55102

27 November, 2017

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CITY CLERK

RE: 20170003905 644 Bayfield Street 55107

Greetings:

I am writing with objections to your recent License Application Notification for Liquor on Sale -100 seats or less, Liquor on sale - Sunday, and Liquor-Outdoor Service Area (Patio) for the license proposed proposed for the Metropolitan Airports Commission Property at 644 Bayfield Street 55107.

First, I believe that the one of the items in the agreement that the City of Saint Paul and the Metropolitan Airports Commission, after the decision to permit the Floodwall to be build at the River's edge rather than the standard 50 foot set back and other special treatments, was that the Metropolitan Airports Commission would only permit businesses on their property that were airport related. Considering its lack of proximity to the vast majority of the flight facilities on the other side of the air field, and that it will be serving alcohol, this restaurant could be considered not airport related, and therefore just an opportunity for the Metropolitan Airports Commission to derive revenue from some long vacated property.

Second, this property is being taxed much lower than other properties in Saint Paul and Ramsey County because of a slight of hand in the State Legislature. For multiple decades now the properties at Holman Field pay only a small percentage of their tax liability to Ramsey Country and the Saint Paul School Systems. The rest is supposedly/ allegedly paid in Lieu of taxes which I have never seen an accounting. This is especially disturbing in that some of the facilities at Holman's Field are now owned and operated by Non-American corporate entities. Given the recent property tax hikes in Saint Paul (20%+), this situation needs to be addressed.

How does the tax issue impact the license application? The tax structure permits The Metropolitan Airports Commission to rent the facility at a lower cost. This places other similar restaurants in the area at an unfair disadvantage.

I believe these two items are adequate reasons to send this license decision to the city council for their inspection and deliberation.

In Fairness to all,

Gjerry Berquist
4636 Washburn Ave South
Minneapolis, MN 55410 651-224-6426

CC: Rebecca Noeker, WARD2
Monica Carbajal, WSCO



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

375 Jackson Street, Suite 220
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-1024

Telephone: 651-266-8989
Facsimile: 651-266-9124
Web: www.stpaul.gov/dsi

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Dear Resident and/or Neighborhood Organization:

The Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) has received an application for a license for a business in your area. You are being notified because this request requires neighborhood notification.

Details regarding this matter are given on the reverse side of this letter. You will have 45 days from the date this notice was mailed to express any objections. The response deadline is given on the reverse side of this document. If you have any objections to the application as described on the reverse side, **please send your objection(s) (with your telephone number) in writing to:**

Legislative Hearing Officer
310 City Hall
15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Or email to: LH-Licensing@ci.stpaul.mn.us

If objections are received, a hearing will be scheduled before a legislative hearing officer. If you have sent in an objection, you will receive notice of the time, place and date of the scheduled hearing. At that hearing, the Legislative Hearing Officer will take testimony from all interested persons. At the end of this hearing, the Legislative Hearing Officer will make a recommendation to the City Council as to whether the license request should be approved or be referred to an administrative law judge for further review. The City Council will have the final authority to grant or deny the license.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Kris Schweinler, DSI Inspector III, at 651-266-8989, or me at 651-266-9106.

Sincerely,

Jeff Fischbach
DSI Inspector III