

Burger, Kathryn (CI-StPaul)

From: Mary Jo Clasen <maryjoclasen@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 6, 2018 10:57 AM
To: *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council; ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us> ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us> ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us> >
Subject: Fwd: O'Gara project

If this is a duplication I apologize!

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mary Jo Clasen <maryjoclasen@gmail.com>
Subject: O'Gara project
Date: August 6, 2018 at 8:41:59 AM CDT
To: ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us> ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us> ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Dear St Paul City Council,

I was unable to attend the Meeting last week regarding the O'Gara project and wish to testify against the current plans going forward.

Before you make your vote for the project, there are a few things to be made aware of regarding neighborhood support for this project.

Dan O'Gara has been a good neighbor, adding extra security and port a potties during big events at his restaurant and snow plowing my driveway at 1554 Hague. When he asked me and my husband, Pete, to sign the neighborhood petition for rezoning, we asked him some tough questions. We asked what the building would look like and was told it would be similar to the "Vintage" on Snelling and Selby. That is a handsome building with set backs from the first level and above levels. We asked if there would be a pool because we were concerned about noise. We were told there were no plans for a pool. With this information, we had no trouble signing the petition and we encouraged other neighbors to sign. IF WE HAD BEEN GIVEN CORRECT INFORMATION, WE WOULD NOT HAVE SIGNED THE PETITION. We trusted that the information we were given was true.

My husband has attended all of the community council meetings and I have attended the most recent. When project plans were made public, the community council members had 3 days (over the weekend) to review and then ask questions at the next meeting. Of the allowed time to ask questions, Ryan Co took up the majority with their presentation leaving just a short time to discuss the plans before the vote. After that meeting, Pete talked with the architect about the "outdoor amenity" and asked how they were going to handle noise going into the neighborhood. We are concerned because the pool is surrounded by 3 towers of apartments acting as an amphitheater echoing noise into the neighborhood. He was told there would be planters placed to dissipate the noise. He was astounded! and was told, oh well, you only have to put up with it 3 months of the year! This pool area is directly across the street at the same elevation as the second floor of the first 3 duplexes on that street. The most recent artist renderings of the project show Hague as a much wider street than the residential street it is. There are no setbacks from 1st & above levels making it look nothing like the Vintage.

In addition, the parking garages are such that headlights will shine into our property at all dark

hours. Currently, our daughter and her family with an infant live across the street. We will eventually live there also.

Pete has requested that the pool be placed in an interior courtyard or on another floor beyond that of the neighborhood such as 3rd or above. I question the need for one at all.

I feel duped by the slick maneuvers of the Ryan Company and the mis communication given to the neighborhood and us by Dan O'Gara.

Thank you for your attention.

Mary Jo Clasen

651.295.3379

42 year owner of 1554 Hague Ave