

**From:** Timothy Frankland [<mailto:tdfrankland@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 17, 2019 3:32 AM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
**Subject:** Ordinance 19-18

Councilmember Prince,

I write to you today urging you to vote against Ordinance 19-18. This ordinance would expand the power of the City Council, allowing it to enact and enforce civil penalties without providing a clear process for appeal for those who wish to contest such penalties.

While some may argue that this ordinance is an unnecessary power grab by the City Council, one of my main concerns with Ordinance 19-18 is that it does not thoroughly spell out an appeal process. In Section 1 Subdivision 2, it states that "This procedure must provide an opportunity to be heard by a neutral party." However, the ordinance completely fails to explain this appeals process at all beyond that sentence.

What exactly is the definition of a neutral party in connection with this ordinance? How is the neutral party to be selected? What is the time frame for appeal of a civil penalty? These details should be spelled out in this ordinance, not simply left to be decided at a future date.

If the City Council wants to expand its powers to enact and enforce civil penalties, shouldn't it (at the very least) spell out the appeals process to the city's residents and businesses? Regardless of the merits or intentions of this ordinance, I believe that it must be voted down as it is currently written.

Please vote NO on Ordinance 19-18.

Sincerely,

Timothy Frankland  
677 McKnight Rd S  
Saint Paul, MN 55119

April 17, 2019

Good Evening, Madam Chair and Council Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak about the proposed Ordinance 19-18.

My name is Grace Schmitt. I have lived in St. Paul for nearly 40 years and my husband was born and raised on the West Side. We currently live in Ward 7.

I am here to request that you not adopt proposed Ordinance 19-18 in its current state.

First, there is an existing Section in the City's Legislative Code Section 1.02 of Part 2, entitled "Penalty." It defines specific consequences for "any person violating any provision of the Legislative Code". In the existing language, it is the judiciary branch of our government that levies a fine (or civil penalty) IF a person is found guilty of the violation.

I do not yet fully understand – or, maybe it's that I don't accept - the reasons why a new amendment is needed giving the City **Council** "full power and authority to impose civil penalties..." when the current language rightly places the authority for imposing civil penalties with our judicial system.

In a transcription of the Charter Commission's February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, a city staff member is quoted as saying it is a "laborious process to charge " someone with a misdemeanor offense.... the burden of proof is very high....." (end quote). As well it should be. We have "due process" in our government for a reason....

Secondly, where and how will the new power and authority to impose civil penalties be used and implemented? Who will, in fact, decide which ordinances are selected and what constitutes "appropriate violations?" As they say, the "devil is in the details". At first I was told the amendment is for the Department of Public Safety and Inspections and would be used only by them. Then, I read that the Charter Commission was told, "it's pretty wide open where this tool could be used..." . Which departments are "waiting in the wings" for the Charter to be amended so that administrative citations and escalating fines can be used to enforce existing ordinances? I understand that DSI has projected \$250,000 in new revenue through the use of administrative citations and civil penalties.

Let's get the details published and out in the open **before** the Charter is amended. Let's get deeper understanding of how this would really work.

I've learned the City's Legislative Code contains well over 200 Chapters . With the current broad language proposed, it seems to me you have a "blank check"..... which, respectfully, at this point, I cannot endorse.

Finally, it was explained to me earlier today that St. Paul's City Charter is our "Constitution". It's an apt analogy and is all the more reason to move slowly, with great care and deep understanding of the implications of this proposed "constitutional" amendment.

Thank you.

Grace Schmitt  
1172 South Winthrop St  
St. Paul, MN 55119

From: Nate Mills [<mailto:Nate4445@comcast.net>]  
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2019 11:15 PM  
To: #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
Subject: Ord 19-18

Hello,

I am reaching out to voice my concerns about Ord 19-18. Given how fast this is being pushed forward in a similar fashion as the new garbage program, I do not think the city should be going forward with this. I fear this will turn into nothing more than a way to generate revenue for the city. If the data I read is correct, there are on average 100 citations issued a year. I also wonder what impact this would have with the new garbage collection program. I know there are a number of people who have not paid their garbage bills due to the spike in cost. Is the city going to go down the road of using fines on delinquent bills?

Sincerely,  
Nathan Mills  
1069 Suburban Ave

**From:** Eric L [<mailto:eric@apts.cc>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2019 12:30 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
**Subject:** ORD 19-18 -- "Another Fine Mess"

Dear Councilmember Prince,

Does St. Paul's left hand know what the right hand is doing? See two attached Pioneer Press newspaper articles, April 18, 2019, pg 4A.

"COUNCIL MULLS ENHANCING FINE POWERS." The City Council's push to amend the City Charter (our city's "constitution") via ORD 19-18 is far too hasty. St. Paul has managed reasonably well for years (for decades? forever?) with no charter provision to enable civil penalties. Proposed changes will affect all St. Paul residents on issues that are both large and small. Our input should not be brushed aside by the unanimous vote of seven City Council members. There has been very little public discussion on this issue. Once again, city-sponsored transparency is in short supply.

"CITY STUDYING IMPACT OF FINES AND FEES ON POOR." Is the City really studying this issue? If yes, why the hurry to enhance the City's fine powers via ORD 19-18?

Trust the People to do it right. Give far more than lip service to seeking public input while studying the impact of fines and fees. Put ORD 19-18 on the November 2019 ballot, or delay it until November 2020, so that voters can, after a reasonable period of citywide study and discussion, choose to adopt or reject the proposed changes.

Eric Lein  
361 Summit, St. Paul, MN 55102

St. Paul City Council

# Council mulls enhancing fine powers

City would have new tool for violations

By Frederick Melo  
fmelo@pioneerpress.com

Fines appear to be just fine with the St. Paul City Council, which signaled Wednesday it may follow the lead of Minneapolis, Woodbury and Duluth when it comes to issuing escalating fines and administrative citations.

A receptive City Council held a public hearing on a proposal to amend the city charter so the council can create financial penalties for violations of city ordinances.

The charter amendment does not commit the city to any particular administrative fine structure for any particular ordinance or department, though the Department of Safety and Inspections has been the most vocal proponent.

DSI officials have said if a building owner has a leaky roof, for instance, and repeatedly

refuses to address it, city inspectors currently have only a handful of tools at their disposal. The city can issue a criminal citation and take the property owner to court, or revoke the building's certificate of occupancy, emptying it of residents entirely.

Currently, DSI averages about 100 misdemeanor or petty misdemeanor citations annually, mostly for animal control issues and some construction-related violations, said department director Ricardo Cervantes.

Several council members said administrative citations and an escalating fine ladder would offer a reasonable alternative.

"I think this is another way where we can get to where we want without criminalizing our residents," said Council Member Dai Thao. "I think this is a smart move."

Council President Amy Brendmoen noted that under current rules, the only way to force land-

**"The charter change expands the power to amend any ordinance. It isn't just (for) the Department of Safety and Inspections. ... (In) Ferguson, Missouri, they were using fines to fund major portions of the city budget."**

*Opponent Colleen Halpine, a resident of Cathedral Hill*

lords to comply with a recent city requirement forcing them to share voter registration materials with new tenants is to make violations a criminal offense.

A handful of residents spoke against the charter amendment proposal, saying that the temptation will be too great for the council to use fines as a way to bolster city finances.

"The charter change expands the power to amend any ordinance," said Colleen Halpine, a resident of Cathedral Hill. "It isn't just (for) the Department of Safety and Inspections. ... (In) Ferguson, Missouri, they were using fines to fund major portions of the city budget."

Opponents fear that down the line, fines could be used to force

compliance with the city's new system of organized trash collection or other city ordinances not related to building inspections.

Speaking in favor of the proposal, Shannon Watson, public affairs director with the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce, said responsible building owners already work closely with DSI, and she predicted the fines would be levied against a small group of lawbreakers.

"Rules without penalties are just suggestions," Watson said.

The council will hold a final vote on April 24.

*Frederick Melo can be reached at 651-228-2172 and fmelo@pioneerpress.com, or on Twitter at @FrederickMelo.*

# City studying impact of fines and fees on poor

Assessment is part of broader initiative being funded by National League of Cities

By Frederick Melo  
fmelo@pioneerpress.com

Fines and fees sometimes do more to leave municipal authorities at odds with their poorest residents than they actually cover the costs of services. At least, that's the thinking of the National League of Cities, which has invited St. Paul and five other cities across the country to take a deep dive into a thorny topic.

The "Cities Addressing Fines and Fees Equitably" (CAFFE) initiative is designed to help six cities assess their use of local fines and fees, and if need be, develop fairer strategies around collec-

tions. St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter recently established a new Office of Financial Empowerment, which will work with the National League of Cities on the assessment.

It's an area where Carter's administration already has some experience, to the delight of social justice advocates and chagrin of traditionalists. In December, the St. Paul Public Library system unblocked the accounts of 51,000 patrons who had been locked out due to unpaid late fines. The library system also did away with late fines altogether for its materials, though patrons will still be expected to pay

**"What we're using the funding for is to analyze our overall fine and fee structure, how they're assessed and how they impact residents."**

*Liz Xiong, spokeswoman for Mayor Melvin Carter's office*

replacement fees if they lose materials.

Funded in part by JP Morgan Chase and Co., the National League of Cities initiative will offer grants and technical assistance of \$35,000 to \$60,000 so the six cities can assess fine and fee structures within at least one of their municipal collections and make program or policy changes. The goal, as well, is to connect residents with services that improve their financial health.

Rather than study one type of collections, St. Paul will take a

broad approach.

"What we're using the funding for is to analyze our overall fine and fee structure, how they're assessed and how they impact residents," said Liz Xiong, a spokeswoman for Carter's office.

In addition to St. Paul, the cities joining the project include Aurora, Colo.; Baton Rouge, La.; Durham, N.C.; Lansing, Mich.; and Nashville, Tenn.

*Frederick Melo can be reached at 651-228-2172 and fmelo@pioneerpress.com, or on Twitter at @FrederickMelo.*

From: toby sauro [<mailto:tobysauro@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2019 3:45 PM  
To: #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
Subject: ORD 19-18 6.03.1

Jane please vote NO !!!! to ORD 19-18

**From:** Bruce Clark [<mailto:bruceclark@usfamily.net>]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 9:59 AM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
**Subject:** Opposition to passage or Ord. 19-18

Dear Councilmember Prince-

Attached are comments that I'd like you to consider as you deliberate whether to support Ord. 19-18. We hope that you will agree that the ordinance takes the City of St. Paul into dangerous waters----with vague language that would allow the city government to harass and penalize citizens who choose the course of civil disobedience to onerous city ordinances.

We ask you to vote "NO!" to the passage of that ordinance.

Thank you.

Bruce Clark  
663 Oakdale Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55107

**Comment regarding Resolution 18-1962 to the Charter Commission  
And Ordinance 19-18**

Council members: In five years or so, what will your "future selves" think about your actions now, and in the recent past? I suspect there will be several, if not all of you that will reflect with regret: "What was I thinking? How did I let myself be part of things getting so out of hand?"

For 165 years, the country, along with St. Paul, has been through two World Wars, a Depression, major labor unrest during the 1930's, protests here and around the country over Vietnam, Civil rights, the turmoil around the 2008 Republican National Convention, and so on. Going back to the founding of the City of St. Paul in 1854, the City Council has never found it necessary to ask for a change to the City Charter to punish acts of Civil Disobedience.

However, NOW, it seems that a fearful Council decides it needed the Charter Commission to change the city's constitution to grant it iron fist authority to impose fines and penalties on those protesting its ordinances. One has to wonder, ---at this time and place in our city's history---why does the City Council feel it needs to acquire retaliatory powers found in Ordinance 19-18 against the citizenry? What is the issue that caused the Council to attempt to stifle dissent at this time and place?

We can only conclude that it's the Mandatory Trash Collection Policy that the city has imposed on the residents of St. Paul. The timing is not coincidental. Now, to save face and to stifle protest, a faction of this Council seeks to up the ante against the citizens protesting their trash policy by acquiring this iron fist authority to punish them.

On Feb. 11, 2019, the Charter Commission debated the Council's Resolution 18-1962. Resolution 18-1962 initially referred to powers that could be granted to the Department of Safety and Inspections for property violations.

But in Section 2 of the proposal, the language VEERS OFF to encompass the city's right to "...impose civil penalties for each violation of a city ordinance." THIS IS IMPORTANT: We note that no mention is made restricting that power strictly to actions by the Dept. of Safety and Inspections.

We testified before the Charter Commission, and asked them to strike that broad authority in Section 2 from the resolution and send it back to the Council for reconsideration. Why was the language in Section 2 written to stand alone in its authority? Despite this concern, a bare majority of the Charter Commission approved your Resolution as drafted.

So here we are today. We note that in your current version of Ord. 19-18, all language which tied any authority to actions by the Dept. of Safety and Inspections has been deleted. Why is that?

You are considering whether to approve Ord. 19-18 to gain that subjective and arbitrary power to punish citizens who oppose you. However, it doesn't have to be this way. At your next Council meeting, on April 24<sup>th</sup>, your future selves can look back with relief that you stopped a retaliatory action from making a bad situation worse. It takes only one City Councilor to vote against this retaliatory ordinance to drop the matter.

Next week can be what John F. Kennedy called a "Profiles in Courage" moment for one or more of you. We ask one (or more) of you to step up and consider the broad implications of punishing citizens who are protesting dangerous and retaliatory ordinances by the current, or future City Councils. We ask that you stand for free speech and for the rights of citizens to address grievances.

If Ord. 19-18 is revoked, and you still feel it's necessary to rewrite the ordinance for future consideration, we ask that you clarify that language in Section 2 and restrict any punitive powers to the lawful duties by the Dept. of Safety and Inspections.

Should you decide to "double down" on stifling dissent to your hideous mandatory trash policy, we will not be deterred. Perhaps the Council will carry this farce further by requesting the Charter Commission to remove the power of referendum from the city charter. But, before you do, we will mount a petition drive to have the voters strike down Ord.19-18. We are VERY good at collecting signatures.

If we submit a validated petition which you then ignore as you did Ord.18-39, we will recruit not one, but two powerful champions to represent us in court against you.

In this year's Fall campaign, do any of you REALLY want to explain to the voters why there's a question about trash on the ballot----AND then---one about your attempt to take punitive action against civil disobedience?

Allow your future selves to be glad you didn't allow things to get completely out of hand.

Next week, please vote down this proposed ordinance.

Bruce Clark  
663 Oakdale Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55107

From: Joe G [<mailto:bigfitz79@earthlink.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 6:07 PM

To: #CI-StPaul\_Ward6 <[Ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Renstrom, Scott (CI-StPaul)

<[scott.renstrom@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:scott.renstrom@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Freking, Heidi (CI-StPaul) <[heidi.freking@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:heidi.freking@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

Subject: Please vote "No" on Ord 19-18 tomorrow

Hello Councilman Busuri,

Welcome to the St. Paul council! I live in Ward 6 at 1853 Arlington Avenue. I am writing today to ask you to vote "no" on Ordinance 19-18 tomorrow, which enables administrative fines for violations of city ordinances.

This ordinance will be used as a hammer against residents accused of violating city ordinances. I am opposed to this because my trust in the city to do what is right is at an all-time low since I moved to St Paul many years ago. This mistrust was greatly enhanced by the terrible new trash system, and the council's efforts to block and ignore residents' legitimate concerns with the program: That it is far more expensive than neighboring communities with organized collection, it punishes residents who produce minimal trash and wish to cart-share, has forced multi-unit buildings to have an absurd number of containers, and has resulted in a terrible degradation of service. It was dismaying to see the recent presentation by Chris Swanson to the council, which was very condescending towards residents who have concerns with the program, going so far as to say, in writing, "change is difficult to accept." What is difficult to accept is that I am now being forced to pay hundreds of dollars per year for a service I do not need or want, and these hundreds of dollars are not going for fixing streets or improving parks but rather into the pockets of corrupt trash hauling corporations.

The ordinance tomorrow will be another step in the wrong direction. I urge you to oppose it. Thank you.

Joe Gustafson  
1853 Arlington Ave E  
St. Paul, MN 55119

**From:** Jean Hoppe <[Jean.Hoppe@cdirad.com](mailto:Jean.Hoppe@cdirad.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 3:54 PM

**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward3 <[Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** Proposed Penalty Amendment

Dear Councilmember Tolbert:

I request that you vote NO on all new proposed charter amendments granting penalty power to the city through an administrative process that does not allow for judicial review. So does this mean if 90 year old Christopher can't take the bus down to city hall to fight his erroneous water bill, the city will see to it that he receives a penalty and eventually his water will be turned off?

I write this note to you with full disclosure that I was completely opposed to the city overtaking the garbage collection process generally, and it seems to me this has been a big debacle. I'm not sure of any contract I would sign that locks in for 5 years and allows the other party to unilaterally raise pricing. I know you are trained as a lawyer, so I'm guessing you were not aware of this aspect when you supported this plan.

Currently there is broad opposition against various utilities being overtaken by the city- including trash. Broadening the city's power without any checks and balances goes against the current resident's view of LESS government involvement.

While I agree people need to be paying their utility bills, I personally have received several bills in error from my new trash collector – ASPEN. Each of these bills had overcharges, it took a lot of diligence and phone calls to straighten this out. Ironically, I also had late charges added to my bills for failing to pay these bills in full, (even though the late fees were based on overcharges,) that were not rectified and I just decided life is too short and I paid these without further follow up. I understand these billing issues happened to other residents. While I patiently navigated the system to have this (mostly) correct, I'm concerned about those residents who are not as tech savvy or diligent in following up. To involve the city in this process with no appeal seems like overreaching and potentially another disaster by the city. I will be clear, there's not a lot of faith in the city's officials right now. The elderly, poor and ESL residents will particularly be at risk. Will the city turn off their water? Is heat and electricity next? I'm not sure why the city thinks it's appropriate to get involved in these historically private sector areas when there are hundreds of potholes that need repair.

Please vote NO to these proposed ordinances.

Thanks.

Jean Hoppe

**From:** David Sisk [<mailto:dwsisk@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2019 10:00 AM

**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward2 <[Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Cc:** Maki, Taina (CI-StPaul) <[Taina.Maki@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Taina.Maki@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Thao, Kayla (CI-StPaul) <[kayla.thao@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:kayla.thao@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** Ordinance 19-18

Councilmember Noecker,

Charter amendment Ordinance 19-18 comes before the City Council for a vote later today. I strongly oppose this ordinance, and as one of the voters in Ward 2, I encourage you to vote against it.

In my view, government actions should be subject to judicial review as a matter of course. Ultimately I think this approach makes for stronger and more just laws. I do not support this ordinance as it removes judicial review from the process. I have yet to read a compelling reason why this is necessary.

Thank you for taking my concerns into account as you and your colleagues prepare to vote on Ordinance 19-18 today.

Respectfully,  
David Sisk



**From:** Frank Martin [<mailto:frank@fcomartin.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2019 5:46 AM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward2 <[Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
**Subject:** Ord 19-18, 19-23, 19-24

Councilmember Noecker,

I am a resident of Ward 2, City of St Paul and want you to know that I as a citizen of this community do not want broad powers which are not subject to judicial review granted to the council as proposed in the above ordinances. Based on our most recent experience with the trash wars between the citizens of St Paul and the council of St Paul, it is clear to me that we should not be adding to the councils powers, but rather we should be rolling them back. Thank you, Frank Martin, 55 Wilkin St, St Paul, 55102.

**From:** Gerald Kackman [<mailto:kackm001@umn.edu>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 7:07 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward2 <[Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
**Subject:** Trash collection and related matters

Dear Council Member Noecker

We are emailing you and all members of the Saint Paul City Council.  
We urge you to vote NOT to pass Ord 19-18, Ord 19-23 and Ord 19-24.  
We also urge you to work to repeal the St. Paul mandated trash collection.  
Our service became less reliable and our costs have increased since the municipal trash collection went into effect. Thank you.

Gerald Kackman  
Patricia Kackman  
401 Johnson Parkway  
Saint Paul, MN 55106

**From:** [mary@chocolatceleste.com](mailto:mary@chocolatceleste.com) [<mailto:mary@chocolatceleste.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2019 12:31 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
**Subject:** Message to Jane on Civil Penalties

Hello Jane,

It's me! I wanted to let you know I am unhappy with the organized trash collection. My reason is that I have not paid for trash service for the last 18 years. I am rarely home. I take my tiny (Lund's plastic bag) to work about every 2 weeks and place it in the dumpster I pay for at my business. I recycle all of my cans at E-Z Recycling. I set the paper recycling out about twice a year. I believe in reducing my carbon foot print, too. I drive only 5 miles per day and less in the summer. I have not paid the bills. My reason is a little bit of a protect but I have to pay the most important bills first. Business is down 50% this

year because of the blizzards during Valentine's Day week. I will pay when I have the money. I believe the program did not consider the finances of people on limited incomes and it needed to do so. I know the council is over a barrel now with the haulers which is unfortunate. Please do not penalize citizens more with the civil penalty...it seems abuse in these times.

I have lived in St. Paul my entire life and 42 years in the same home. Recently I've been thinking that it is just too hard to live in Saint Paul. I believe the behavior of the council president needs to stop, too.

Please vote no to the additional penalties today. I have spoken to Chris Tolbert, too.

Thank you.

Mary Leonard  
551 Cretin Avenue S.

**From:** Roxanne Hawthorne [<mailto:grammrocky@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2019 4:35 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward5 <[Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
**Subject:**

Please reconsider your intentions of the nwe ordinance of fining St.Paul  
Citizens for petty mistiminer charges

From: christine wahlstrom [<mailto:ctraveler@msn.com>]  
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 9:09 PM  
To: #CI-StPaul\_Ward1 <[Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward2 <[Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward3 <[Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward4 <[Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward5 <[Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward6 <[Ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward1-7 <[Ward1-7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward1-7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
Cc: christine wahlstrom <[ctraveler@msn.com](mailto:ctraveler@msn.com)>  
Subject: Ord 19-18

Good Evening, my name is Christine Wahlstrom. I live at 1824 Selby Ave, in St. Paul. I am asking that you vote against Ord 19-18. St. Paul's legislative code covers the issues that this ordinance is being proposed to cover.

This ordinance is a blank check, with no rules or controls put in place. Making changes to our constitution is a very serious issue and is to be taken seriously. This ordinance should not be allowed to pass.

Thank you  
Christine Wahlstrom

St.Paul City Council  
Ward 7 Jane L.Prince  
15 Kellogg Blvd.West  
310 City Hall St.Paul,MN.55102

RECEIVED

MAY 01 2019

CITY COUNCIL  
WARD 7

April 29,2019

Dear Ms.Prince:

I am in Ward 7 and I am writing to let you know that I need you to vote "NO" and "stop" the PENALTY POWER AMENDMENT.L oppose the city garbage assessments.

We need to continue to have our own garbage hauler the cities rules and prices are way out of hand and we did not get a fair vote on this situation. I am a senior citizen and a voter,I wrote to the Mayor Carter and he never responded any way for or against so he will be up for election again and my vote and many of the seniors I have spoke to feel the same way he will be GONE.

Thank you and I look forward to you helping my ward on the Ord.19-18.

Sincerely,  
Rachelle K.Cammissuli

**From:** Nate4445 [<mailto:Nate4445@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 5, 2019 9:18 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
**Subject:** Ordinance 19-18

Pioneer Press column about the proposed ordinance. This article states exactly how I feel about this ordinance. Please vote no.

[https://www.twincities.com/2019/05/05/schmitt-goodman-lets-know-more-before-we-let-st-paul-levy-more-fines/?utm\\_source=facebook.com&utm\\_campaign=socialflow&utm\\_content=fb-PioneerPress&utm\\_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR27EyY5E7Jb7Sw0cxZzQzRcspLav3BjpEj\\_RFQrAC0D-7i4ADz-Utbsl0](https://www.twincities.com/2019/05/05/schmitt-goodman-lets-know-more-before-we-let-st-paul-levy-more-fines/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=socialflow&utm_content=fb-PioneerPress&utm_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR27EyY5E7Jb7Sw0cxZzQzRcspLav3BjpEj_RFQrAC0D-7i4ADz-Utbsl0)

Dear City Council,

I request you vote no based on the many well stated reasons in the St Paul Pioneer Press article which I have attached.

I agree with the article. A petition is circulating already. This could be used in the elections. Show you are committed to more open government by not passing this broad sweeping change to the City Charter by voting no on Ord 19-18.

Colleen Halpine

[https://www.twincities.com/2019/05/05/schmitt-goodman-lets-know-more-before-we-let-st-paul-levy-more-fines/?utm\\_source=facebook.com&utm\\_campaign=socialflow&utm\\_content=fb-PioneerPress&utm\\_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR27EyY5E7Jb7Sw0cxZzQzRcspLav3BjpEj\\_RFQrAC0D-7i4ADz-Utbsl0](https://www.twincities.com/2019/05/05/schmitt-goodman-lets-know-more-before-we-let-st-paul-levy-more-fines/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=socialflow&utm_content=fb-PioneerPress&utm_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR27EyY5E7Jb7Sw0cxZzQzRcspLav3BjpEj_RFQrAC0D-7i4ADz-Utbsl0)

**From:** Carol Berg [<mailto:a9696b@msn.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2019 3:16 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>  
**Subject:** URGENT ST PAUL COUNCIL MEETING

Council Member Prince: **STOP - URGENT - STOP PENALTY ORDINANCE 19-18**

I am a 79 year old Army Veteran with a disability. I have a lot of veteran friends who were sprayed by Agent Orange in Viet Nam who have developed terminal health problems. Jane, our past Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson all made huge mistakes about Viet Nam. The City also made a huge mistake about the trash mess. I am praying that you will vote NO against ratifying the Trash Amendments 19-23 and 19-24. **Jane, I voted for you and now you must ALSO STOP ORDINANCE 19-18 PENALTY ORDINANCE at today's City Council Meeting.**

Thank you!

Lenny Anderson  
559 S McKnight Rd  
St Paul MN 5519

**From:** Ruby Hunt [<mailto:huntruby@msn.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 7, 2019 9:49 AM

**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward1 <[Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward2 <[Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward3 <[Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward5 <[Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward6 <[Ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward4 <[Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** The City Charter

I was taken by surprise and concern when I read the guest editorial in the Sunday St. Paul newspaper about the charter amendment to be voted on by the City Council tomorrow. "Former Mayor George Latimer and I discussed this issue yesterday. George, as a former Mayor, and I, as a former City Council member, who supported and governed under the new charter are concerned about this issue and its future. The 5 to 4 vote by the Charter Commission indicates this is a very complex issue. The levying of civil penalties is too important to be adopted without more extensive discussion and deliberation. George joins me in forwarding this message.

**From:** Diane Signorelli [<mailto:diane.signorelli@hotmail.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 7, 2019 1:03 PM

**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward1 <[Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward2 <[Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward3 <[Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward4 <[Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward5 <[Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward6 <[Ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** City Charter Changes

Dear Councilmembers Thao, Noecker, Tolbert, Nelson, Brendmoen, Busuri, Prince,

I have real and deep concerns about the proposed city charter changes that would allow city council to impose penalties for violations of city ordinances (6.03.1). As currently written, there are no limits to these powers. I believe these fines in both intent and practice could be used to stifle lawful protest, civil disobedience, and free speech.

These changes are also in violation of the spirit of the current mayoral administration, whose intent is to create public participation and a welcoming community where every voice is heard and valued. In fact, taken directly from Council President Brendmoen's bio, "Amy is highly accessible to her constituents and seeks to enfranchise community members by building trust, sharing power and providing consistent, clear communication".

Finally, whether intended or not, these changes to the charter are being interpreted in our community as direct punishment to the organizers of the trash referendum-as a warning that "you can't fight city hall". Our local democracy deserves much better.

Thank you for your time,

*Diane Signorelli*

Dear Councilmembers Thao, Noecker, Tolbert, Nelson, Brendmoen, Busuri, Prince, and Policy Director Her, I have real and deep concerns about the proposed city charter changes that would allow city council to impose penalties for violations of city ordinances (6.03.1). As currently written, there are no limits to these powers. I believe these fines in both intent and practice could be used to stifle lawful protest, civil disobedience, and free speech. These changes are also in violation of the spirit of the current mayoral administration, whose intent is to create public participation and a welcoming community where every voice is heard and valued. Finally, whether intended or not, these changes to the charter are being interpreted in our community as direct punishment to the organizers of the trash referendum-as a warning that "you can't fight city hall". Our local democracy deserves much better. Thanks for your time,

Caprice Glaser

**Subject:**city charger change.

**Date:**Tue, 7 May 2019 12:33:11 -0500

**From:**Joel Matters <[jematters1@juno.com](mailto:jematters1@juno.com)>

**To:**[ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

To the counsel members, Thao, Noecker, Tolbert, Nelson, Brendmoin, Busuri, Prince and Director Her.

I am urging you to please DO NOT vote to change the city charter to allow imposition of penalties for ordinance violations. If I'm not mistaken, the city already has a system set up for violation of incidents.

I really don't expect to hear from you, because I've already sent you one e-mail a few weeks back to you and NO response from anyone. You probably don't want to have anyone question your leadership, or give feedback, because you have YOUR agenda and YOUR eyes on the next election, and YOU want the POWER to rule over people.

Someone please have the guts to stand up and stop this. The Minnesota government, whether it's state or city, is always after more money from the people. There are already many homeless people on the streets and rules like this can and will cause a hardship on some people.

Thank you.

Grace Matters

Dear Councilmembers Thao, Noecker, Tolbert, Nelson, Brendmoen, Busuri, Prince, and Policy Director Her,

I have real and deep concerns about the proposed city charter changes that would allow city council to impose penalties for violations of city ordinances (6.03.1). As currently written, there are no limits to these powers.

I believe these fines in both intent and practice could be used to stifle lawful protest, civil disobedience, and free speech. These changes are also in violation of the spirit of the current mayoral administration, whose intent is to create public participation and a welcoming community where every voice is heard and valued.

Julia Jackson  
Duke Street, St. Paul

-----Original Message-----

From: [dthom01@comcast.net](mailto:dthom01@comcast.net) [<mailto:dthom01@comcast.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 9:21 AM

To: #CI-StPaul\_Ward7 <[Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

Subject: Civil penalty ordinance

Council member Prince,

Asia have stared to you and your office before I am opposed to the civil penalty ordinance that you are voting on this afternoon. I watched the council meeting recently where the head of fire and safety inspections had proposed that it would be a good way to get penalties assessed to the landlords that were not abiding by the fire and safety inspection repairs without revoking their certificate of occupancy he and us disrupting the tenants that were living in the property. I find this absurd because if thy violation is severe enough that it needs to be written up by fire and safety inspections and it is not remedied the property should lose its certificate of occupancy and the property vacated. If it is a minor detail that the city feels can be handled with the civil penalty and the certificate of occupancy does not need to be revoked then it probably should not have been written up as a violation in the first place!

I imagine the close door council meeting you are having today is so Amy can try to convince you to vote yes on the civil penalty ordinance this afternoon.

PLEASE VITE NO ON THIS ORDINANCE. THANK YOU!

David Thom 42 yr resident of Daytons Bluff

365 Hope Street  
410 Eichenwald Street