

Dear Ms. Noecker and City Council

In summary, we are against the city vacating a portion of the alley as public property behind 850 Grand for the use of the commercial tenants at that address.

1. Vacating a portion of the alley behind 850 Grand Avenue does not have any public benefit and will adversely impact the residential property owners that share the alley with this property. Allowing 850 Grand to have permanent rights to this portion of the alley will have a huge impact on the ability for the homeowners directly behind this portion of the alley to have access to their property, which will also decrease their property value. These property owners would no longer have any recourse if use of this portion of the alley blocked the use of their garage or off street parking spots.
2. Allowing a business to have the right of way in an alley also sets a bad precedence for the livability of the neighborhood. We are constantly battling illegal parking in the alley from multi-family and commercial buildings located on this block of Grand Avenue that prevents the flow of traffic and use of our off street parking spaces in the same alley. Allowing 850 Grand to own part of the alley could lead to other Grand Avenue business owners to do the same and hinder our ability to police parking in the alley. Allowing part of the alley to be permanently blocked will also hinder access for emergency vehicles.
3. We, like many of our neighbors, really enjoy the mix of restaurants like Café Latte and other establishments on Grand Avenue and want to support them. However, it is our opinion that vacating a portion of the alley is a detriment to residential property owners on the Lincoln side of the alley as it will restrict traffic and impose on the homes immediately across the alley. We are hopeful that another option can be explored to assist in improving this situation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Curt & Jennifer Isernhagen
815 Lincoln Avenue