

## Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)

---

**From:** Bistodeau, Travis (CI-StPaul)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2019 2:42 PM  
**To:** Cahanes, Pat (CI-StPaul); Elder, Bruce (CI-StPaul); Schneider, Steve (CI-StPaul); Cervantes, Ricardo (CI-StPaul); Tincher, Jaime (CI-StPaul); Wiese, Angie (CI-StPaul); Perucca, James (CI-StPaul); Jacobs, Rick (CI-StPaul); Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul); Leggett, Peter (CI-StPaul)  
**Cc:** Lantry, Kathy (CI-StPaul); Ubl, Stephen (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul\_PW-SewerDispatch; Murphy, Patrick G (CI-StPaul); Prince, Jane (CI-StPaul); Niziolek, Dan (CI-StPaul); Gleason, Steve (CI-StPaul); Luzinski, Mark (CI-StPaul); Schneider, Steve (CI-StPaul)  
**Subject:** RE: Emergency at Shamrock Plaza  
**Attachments:** IMG\_2184.jpg  
**Importance:** High

Greetings,

As Fire Safety Manager Wiese describes below, the entire building has been condemned for lack of essential services (water, sanitary sewer). This will impact eight businesses/occupancies. There may be an option for occupants to appeal this determination and resume operation through the LHO/council process. However, the building has been vacated for now. All occupancies in this building are commercial/institutional in nature, so there are no concerns around housing.

The Department of Safety and Inspections was scheduled to next inspect this property in November of 2019. There was a plumbing permit pulled for a sewer repair on 8/5/19, but no requests for inspections have been made to date. We were unaware of the situation until Councilmember Prince's email last night. Please see the attached photo for some sense of the scope of the unusual repairs that were taking place in this facility.

The property owner has been in contact with DSI staff and is aware of the condemnation. I'm confident that DSI, PW and SPRW will continue work with the property owner to approve re-occupancy as soon as possible, including all necessary permitted work.

DSI will be assemble a number of media talking points and coordinate with the Mayor's office should there be any inquiries.

Thank you,



**Travis Bistodeau**

***Deputy Director***

Department of Safety and Inspections

375 Jackson Street, Suite 220

Saint Paul, MN 55101

**P:** 651-266-1922

**C:** 651-262-7698

**F:** 651-266-1919

[travis.bistodeau@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:travis.bistodeau@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

The Most Livable  
City in America



Making Saint Paul the Most Livable City in America

***DSI's Mission: To preserve and improve the quality of life in Saint Paul by protecting and promoting public health and safety for all.***

---

**From:** Cahanes, Pat (CI-StPaul)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2019 11:28 AM

**To:** Elder, Bruce (CI-StPaul) <bruce.elder@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Schneider, Steve (CI-StPaul) <steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Cervantes, Ricardo (CI-StPaul) <ricardo.cervantes@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Tincher, Jaime (CI-StPaul) <Jaime.Tincher@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Bistodeau, Travis (CI-StPaul) <Travis.Bistodeau@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Wiese, Angie (CI-StPaul) <angie.wiese@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Perucca, James (CI-StPaul) <james.perucca@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Jacobs, Rick (CI-StPaul) <rick.jacobs@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

**Cc:** Lantry, Kathy (CI-StPaul) <kathy.lantry@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Ubl, Stephen (CI-StPaul) <stephen.ubl@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul\_PW-SewerDispatch <PW-SewerDispatch@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Murphy, Patrick G (CI-StPaul) <patrick.g.murphy@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Prince, Jane (CI-StPaul) <Jane.Prince@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Niziolek, Dan (CI-StPaul) <dan.niziolek@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Gleason, Steve (CI-StPaul) <steve.gleason@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Luzinski, Mark (CI-StPaul) <mark.luzinski@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

**Subject:** RE: Emergency at Shamrock Plaza

Attached is the sewer information for Shamrock Plaza (275 McKnight Road S.). Feel free to contact me @ 651-402-9604, with questions or if we need to meet.

Thanks  
Pat

---

**From:** Elder, Bruce (CI-StPaul)

**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2019 10:58 AM

**To:** Schneider, Steve (CI-StPaul) <[steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Cervantes, Ricardo (CI-StPaul) <[ricardo.cervantes@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:ricardo.cervantes@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Tincher, Jaime (CI-StPaul) <[Jaime.Tincher@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Jaime.Tincher@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Bistodeau, Travis (CI-StPaul) <[Travis.Bistodeau@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Travis.Bistodeau@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Wiese, Angie (CI-StPaul) <[angie.wiese@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:angie.wiese@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Perucca, James (CI-StPaul) <[james.perucca@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:james.perucca@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Jacobs, Rick (CI-StPaul) <[rick.jacobs@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:rick.jacobs@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Cc:** Lantry, Kathy (CI-StPaul) <[kathy.lantry@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:kathy.lantry@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Ubl, Stephen (CI-StPaul) <[stephen.ubl@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:stephen.ubl@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_PW-SewerDispatch <[PW-SewerDispatch@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:PW-SewerDispatch@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Cahanes, Pat (CI-StPaul) <[pat.cahanes@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:pat.cahanes@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Murphy, Patrick G (CI-StPaul) <[patrick.g.murphy@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:patrick.g.murphy@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Prince, Jane (CI-StPaul) <[Jane.Prince@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Jane.Prince@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Niziolek, Dan (CI-StPaul) <[dan.niziolek@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:dan.niziolek@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Gleason, Steve (CI-StPaul) <[steve.gleason@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:steve.gleason@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Luzinski, Mark (CI-StPaul) <[mark.luzinski@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:mark.luzinski@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** Re: Emergency at Shamrock Plaza

If a meeting is arranged, Pat Cahanes of the Sewer Utility may be able to attend with information on the private sewer service. He can be reached at 651 402 9604.

Bruce Elder P.E.  
City of Saint Paul  
Asst City Engineer  
Sewer Utility Mgr  
Ph 651-266-6248

---

**From:** Schneider, Steve (CI-StPaul)

**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2019 9:25 AM

**To:** Elder, Bruce (CI-StPaul); Cervantes, Ricardo (CI-StPaul); Tincher, Jaime (CI-StPaul); Bistodeau, Travis (CI-StPaul); Wiese, Angie (CI-StPaul); Perucca, James (CI-StPaul); Jacobs, Rick (CI-StPaul)

**Cc:** Lantry, Kathy (CI-StPaul); Ubl, Stephen (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul\_PW-SewerDispatch; Cahanes, Pat (CI-StPaul); Murphy, Patrick G (CI-StPaul); Prince, Jane (CI-StPaul); Niziolek, Dan (CI-StPaul); Gleason, Steve (CI-StPaul); Luzinski, Mark (CI-StPaul)

**Subject:** RE: Emergency at Shamrock Plaza

Ricardo,

SPRWS was contacted initially on August 9, 2019 for a water shutoff at the request of the owner. The water service was shut off on that day and we checked for a leak on the water service as there was water surfacing in the parking lot near the building earlier this year. We returned twice to turn the water on and back off at the request of the owner as they were investigating with contractors to make some repairs/modifications to the sewer and water services that actually run under the building. Earlier in the week of August 26, 2019, we were called by a contractor one of our plumbing inspectors and Distribution supervisor met with him on separate occasions to review the situation and here is what we know:

- The water was initially shut off on August 9, 2019
- The initial contractor was investigating the situation to determine what was necessary to make repairs. It was thought that there was a leak on the private water service but that is not clear at this point. That contractor abandoned the job.
- The sewer service that runs under the building has been a maintenance problem over the years and now appears to be totally blocked and attempts to clear it have been unsuccessful.
- With no sewer service, water service cannot be reestablished as there is nowhere for the water to go once used. We were mobilizing on Wednesday to provide a temporary water service line (in case the water service was leaking) but then learned that the sewer was not functioning so we did not make a temporary connection.
- There is a plan to relocate the water and sewer service lines that run under the building but the contractor cannot begin that work until September 3, 2019 (according to the contractor).
- No water service repair permits have been filed for this work as of yet.

SPRWS was made aware of the complexity of this situation earlier this week and Steve Gleason, Asst. GM and Mark Luzinski, Distribution Supervisor III, will be meeting with DSI on site today to determine if there is anything further that can be done at this point. All of the items we are dealing with here are privately owned and the responsibility of the owner.

Please coordinate the meeting with Steve (651-266-6820) and he will set it up on our end.



**Steve Schneider**  
***General Manager***

1900 Rice Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55113  
Ph: 651-266-6280

[steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

---

**From:** Elder, Bruce (CI-StPaul)

**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2019 8:31 AM

**To:** Cervantes, Ricardo (CI-StPaul) <[ricardo.cervantes@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:ricardo.cervantes@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Tincher, Jaime (CI-StPaul) <[Jaime.Tincher@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Jaime.Tincher@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Bistodeau, Travis (CI-StPaul) <[Travis.Bistodeau@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Travis.Bistodeau@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Wiese, Angie (CI-StPaul) <[angie.wiese@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:angie.wiese@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Perucca, James (CI-StPaul) <[james.perucca@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:james.perucca@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Jacobs, Rick (CI-StPaul) <[rick.jacobs@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:rick.jacobs@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Cc:** Schneider, Steve (CI-StPaul) <[steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Lantry, Kathy (CI-StPaul) <[kathy.lantry@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:kathy.lantry@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Ubl, Stephen (CI-StPaul) <[stephen.ubl@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:stephen.ubl@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; #CI-StPaul\_PW-SewerDispatch <[PW-SewerDispatch@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:PW-SewerDispatch@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Cahanes, Pat (CI-StPaul) <[pat.cahanes@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:pat.cahanes@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Murphy, Patrick G (CI-

StPaul) <[patrick.g.murphy@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:patrick.g.murphy@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Prince, Jane (CI-StPaul) <[Jane.Prince@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Jane.Prince@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** Re: Emergency at Shamrock Plaza

Ricardo,

The Sewer Utility checked the city sewer that serves the property on August 5th in response to a call from the property owner.

There was no problem with the city sewer.

We gave the P.O. the records of the private service. We have not been contacted for any repair permits for the service.

Bruce Elder P.E.  
City of Saint Paul  
Asst City Engineer  
Sewer Utility Mgr  
Ph 651-266-6248

---

**From:** Cervantes, Ricardo (CI-StPaul)

**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2019 7:49 AM

**To:** Tincher, Jaime (CI-StPaul); Bistodeau, Travis (CI-StPaul); Wiese, Angie (CI-StPaul); Perucca, James (CI-StPaul)

**Cc:** Schneider, Steve (CI-StPaul); Elder, Bruce (CI-StPaul); Lantry, Kathy (CI-StPaul); Ubl, Stephen (CI-StPaul)

**Subject:** RE: Emergency at Shamrock Plaza

I do not have any info on this situation yet.

Yes DSI is the point. I will follow up with Jane and you all when I have more information.



**Ricardo X. Cervantes**

**Director**

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Department of Safety and Inspections

375 Jackson St, Suite 220

Saint Paul, MN 55101-1806

P: 651-266-9101

[ricardo.cervantes@ci.st.paul.mn.us](mailto:ricardo.cervantes@ci.st.paul.mn.us)



Making Saint Paul the Most Livable City in America

***"DSI's Mission: To preserve and improve the quality of life in Saint Paul by protecting and promoting public health and safety for all."***

---

**From:** Tincher, Jaime (CI-StPaul)

**Sent:** Friday, August 30, 2019 7:02 AM

**To:** Cervantes, Ricardo (CI-StPaul) <[ricardo.cervantes@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:ricardo.cervantes@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Ubl, Stephen (CI-StPaul)

<[stephen.ubl@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:stephen.ubl@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Cc:** Schneider, Steve (CI-StPaul) <[steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Elder, Bruce (CI-StPaul)

<[bruce.elder@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:bruce.elder@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Lantry, Kathy (CI-StPaul) <[kathy.lantry@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:kathy.lantry@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** Re: Emergency at Shamrock Plaza

Ricardo and Steve,

Do have background knowledge on this situation? I assume you are point to inspect and can followup with the rest of us, yes?

Can you write back to the CM and let her know your next steps?

Thank you.

Jaime

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 29, 2019, at 9:10 PM, Prince, Jane (CI-StPaul) <[Jane.Prince@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Jane.Prince@ci.stpaul.mn.us)> wrote:

All,

Sorry, but this is all to say that I don't see how we can leave it to exist as-is over the weekend.

Please let me know what you think,

Jane

---

**From:** Prince, Jane (CI-StPaul)

**Sent:** Thursday, August 29, 2019 9:08 PM

**To:** Cervantes, Ricardo (CI-StPaul) <[ricardo.cervantes@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:ricardo.cervantes@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Schneider, Steve (CI-StPaul) <[steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:steve.schneider@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Elder, Bruce (CI-StPaul) <[bruce.elder@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:bruce.elder@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Lantry, Kathy (CI-StPaul) <[kathy.lantry@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:kathy.lantry@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Ubl, Stephen (CI-StPaul) <[stephen.ubl@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:stephen.ubl@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Cc:** Tincher, Jaime (CI-StPaul) <[Jaime.Tincher@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Jaime.Tincher@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Harr, Stephanie (CI-StPaul) <[Stephanie.Harr@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Stephanie.Harr@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Heintz, Polly (CI-StPaul) <[polly.heintz@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:polly.heintz@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** Emergency at Shamrock Plaza

**Importance:** High

All,

Tonight I was confronted with a property condition that I could not imagine in our city. Shamrock Plaza at McKnight and Lower Afton Road has been without running water for over a month. The bathrooms are non-functioning. Business owners and customers talked about it alternately being a water or a sewer problem.

One restaurant Mei Mei is closed. All the other businesses are trying to operate with bottled water. It is a health and safety nightmare. The mosque on the lower level has been flooded. Mosque members there for prayer are doing their ritual bathing in the parking lot with bottled water. Two portable toilets have been placed in the rear parking lot.

The owner, a man by the name of Naryan (651-246-3607) is reported to having brought a variety of contractors to the site, but none have stayed to do the work. Clearly he is not seeking permits to do the work. And according to everyone I talked to, "He doesn't want to spend any money." The most incredible part of all this is that in the gas station store, about half of the floor space is enclosed with plastic inside of which exists a huge hole, which he has dug, apparently to locate the problem.

The gas station owner says that he has done business in America for 57 years, and he has never seen anything like this. I talked to the man who owns the cleaners and he is working night and day to try to meet his customers needs off site. I also talked to Omar Syed who owns Chilly Time Coffee, Toufik who owns the tobacco shop, and the president of the mosque. I believe all of them are prepared for the City

to come in and do whatever it needs to do to hold this property owner accountable, even if it means condemnation in the short term.

This is truly an emergency. Please look into right away. You can call me anytime, 651-308-4984.

<image001.png>