As one neighbor mentioned, if they pass the illegal ordinance for St. Paul, what is to keep thieves from selling converters outside of St. Paul? It would be very easy to continue stealing them in the city and driving a few miles to sell them.

The entire STATE needs to get on board with this, otherwise it seems rather pointless.

-Lynn Peterson Como Park resident

From: Sheila Pojar <qweenofashiba13@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, April 17, 2020 10:57 AM

To: *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council <Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Subject: 4-17-2020 Ordinance 20-16/Catalytic Converters

THANK YOU!! :>)

Great job on this! I'm at 1422 Asbury Street and my video cameras caught two thieves jacking up a Prius and cutting off my neighbor's converter in about 40 seconds. My other neighbor had one taken from the alleyway. The state/federal legislatures need to act to ban the sale, trade, or possession of one of these converters without specific licensure/proof of legitimate possession. I am seeing cases in my law office where consumers have been sold cars with a "straight pipe" installed to replace the missing catalytic converter. That ought to be a felony for the dealership and a felony for anyone who even possesses a catalytic converter. My two cents.

Peter F. Barry

Consumer Rights Lawyer

I applaud that you are thinking about this action on ordinance 20-16, but if this isn't a Statewide action, what is to prevent the thieves from selling converters in Roseville, for example. Auto part stores sell catalytic converters. Will you make selling certain auto parts illegal and make me not use St. Paul stores to buy some auto parts. Then what happens if I damage my catalytic converter by running over a curb or something. Am I not allowed to scrap my own property and recover some of the money? You really need to think this through since it seems to be a knee-jerk reaction to a real problem. There is a potential to make it worse if you don't do it right.

Good Luck,

Dan Gausman 658 Simon

It makes no sense that thieves can sell these parts.

This ordinance seems like a step in the right direction.

Our converter was stolen last weekend, and we are aware of several neighbors to whom this has happened. We've seen the statistics. Until there is better deterrence, it will continue.

Thank you, Elizabeth Lebakken 1454 Simpson Street St. Paul