



To whom it may concern -

My name is Thomas Keim, and I have asked Jane Prince's office to help with an addendum to do a slight change to the ordinance regarding liquor stores being located a minimum of one half mile from another liquor store. We own the Yoerg Brewing Company at 378 Maria in Saint Paul, a building that has two bays in it (*374 Maria Avenue and 378 Maria Avenue*).

We were originally going to build an event center at 374 Maria Avenue for weddings, trade shows and other events, but with this pandemic, it could be years before a center would be profitable, and we just can't afford to put \$30,000 into something that won't bring revenue into it for a couple years.

We've decided to put a boutique wine shop there instead. If there is one thing missing from the East Side, it's a classic, old world wine shop. We have over 40 years experience running some of the top wine programs in the Country, and it would be a perfect fit for this historic building. Now people from the East Side don't have to drive to Grand Avenue, South Minneapolis or the suburbs to find great imported wines.

The issue is, the store needs to be a half mile from another retail off-sale liquor license. And we are over a half mile if you drive to the closest two stores. But it's less than a half mile if you take a helicopter. We don't think that's fair.

We have great expertise with running a wine shop, and have no doubt it will be a great success. We have plans to fill it with antique pieces & vintage French/Italian wine posters that will make it a one of a kind wine shop. Without it, this change to the restaurant scene will shut us down. Our complete business plan is also attached.

We could really use your support in getting this done. Thank you so much for your consideration - **Thomas Keim**

VIN DE PAYS

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