



Payne-Phalen

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

567 Payne Avenue, St. Paul MN 55130 www.paynephallen.org 651-774-5234 district5@paynephallen.org

City of Saint Paul City Council
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Sent via e-mail to:
Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us

August 28, 2020

Re: Proposal for changing off-sale wine shop distance requirements

Dear City Council,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Payne-Phalen Community Council. The Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday evening, August 25th through an online meeting platform. The published agenda included an item on the request from the City of St. Paul for support on a proposal to change distance requirements for off-sale wine sales. The Board packet included information from the City about the proposed ordinance. Ward 7 Legislative Aide, Stephanie Harr attended the meeting, explained the proposal, and addressed questions from the Board and community members gathered for the meeting.

After full discussion of the matter by the Board and community participants in the meeting, **the PPCC Board of Directors voted to support the proposed ordinance change to decrease distance requirements for wine-only off sale licenses.**

PPCC has and will continue to support of the City's "Open for Business" initiatives that strive to help new businesses open, stimulate business growth, and eliminate outdated restrictions based on the fears of bygone generations of St. Paulites. We see this proposed change as being well-aligned with the goals of "Open for Business."

More specifically, PPCC believes that allowing closer proximity between wine specialty stores will benefit the community by expanding business and retail options, improving the viability of businesses, and helping to improve and enhance the vitality of commercial districts on the East Side and across the city. Overall, the Board sees this as a commonsense improvement to the City's ordinances, one that will encourage local shopping and keeping business in the community, not out of the community. In turn, such


City of Saint Paul, City Council
August 28, 2020
Page Two

changes are likely to generate more commercial activity, more jobs, and more economic opportunity.

We appreciate you including this letter in the record related to this proposed ordinance change. And thank you in advance for taking the position of the Payne-Phalen Community Council into consideration as you make your decision.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require further clarification.

Sincerely,



Jack Byers
Executive Director

- cc. Councilmember Jane Prince, Ward 7, Sponsor
Stephanie Harr, Legislative Aide, Ward 7
Molly LaFleche, President, Payne-Arcade Business Association
Paris Dunning, Executive Director, East Side Area Business Association
Athena Hollins, Board President
Rebecca Nelson, Board Secretary
PPCC Board of Directors