

From: Jon Lopez <jonlopez.1@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:44 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2 <Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Appeal for Property at 2272 Seventh Street West

Hello,

My name is Jonathan Lopez I'm writing to Council Member Rebecca Noecker. I know she will be getting this information as I sent to the council hearing email address as well but wanted to go a step further. We have a hearing scheduled for December 2, 2020 at 3:30 pm and wanted to ask for her help in this matter. My father and I are owners and property managers for this property located at 2272 7th St W which is Ward 2 based on the map. As I stated on my testimony COVID-19 has hit my family really hard and it has impacted our business really hard as well. We have been waving late fees for tenants and helping many with payment plans to pay rent. We are struggling very much at the moment and things got a bit worse with these tenants. Once they knew we couldn't evict them they stopped paying rent and stopped letting us in the property. They took advantage of the pandemic and eviction ban to do as they pleased. The only reason we were able to get them out was because they had an incident that involve the police and that lead the police to enter the premises and discovered that they were hoarders. The police contacted the department of safety and inspection to check on the property. Once the inspection was completed they condemned the property because of all the items that were fire hazards inside the property. Once they condemned it they also placed it as a category 2 property which is the item we are appealing. We agree with the inspector that the property needs work and we have started on that work as well as you can see the before and after pictures I attached to the email. We are just asking for an opportunity to make things right which the prior tenants never gave us an opportunity to maintain the property. All we ask is for a certificate of occupancy inspection compared to the category 2 process which is very expensive and time consuming. We take pride in our properties and inspections as well. This pandemic has changed so many things and made things more difficult we are just asking for a simple process to make things right. Thank you very much and stay safe.

Jonathan Lopez
Helosa LLC