

November 27, 2020

Mr. George Gause
Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission
City of Saint Paul
VIA EMAIL

Mr. Gause:

On November 12th, the Board of Directors of the Macalester Groveland Community Council (“MGCC”) held a public eMeeting via Zoom, at which it considered a resolution from its standing Housing and Land Use Committee regarding the application for a demolition permit for Loras Hall, located on the University of St. Thomas Campus. Representatives of the applicant, The University of St. Thomas, appeared to speak to the application and to answer questions.

Prior to the meeting, MGCC did not receive any letters in opposition or in support of the application. Furthermore, 1 community member attended the eMeeting to speak in opposition of the application.

After speaking with the applicant, considering neighborhood feedback, consulting the Macalester Groveland Long Range plan, and assessing the merits of the application, the Board of Directors passed the following resolution by a final vote of 14-1:

**** “The Board of Directors of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council supports the University of St Thomas's plan to remove Loras Hall so that the new STEAM Building can be built on the site.” ****

Important to the discussion, were the following considerations:

Loras Hall does not contribute to the sustainability and resiliency goals in the City of Saint Paul 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

The consideration that other buildings designed by Cass Gilbert have greater historic significance and a more impactful design.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Alexa Golemo
Executive Director
Macalester-Groveland Community Council

cc (via email): Amy McDonough, University of St. Thomas
Mark Vangsgard, University of St. Thomas
Amy Gage, University of St. Thomas
Ward 4 Office, City of Saint Paul