

From: [Garrett Hoffman](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul](#), [Contact-Council](#), [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Subject: Re: Sound Level Variance Request for 2383 University Apartments
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:20:50 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to vehemently oppose the sound variance request for February 11, 2021 - March 21, 2021. I live at 765 Hampden Ave, two blocks from the construction project. I am a struggling small business owner trying to keep myself and my employees afloat during the pandemic. Because of the pandemic, I operate my business remotely out of my home and have no other place to work because the equipment I need to do my job is located at my home and there is no other safe space for me to operate.

The request, in my view, will absolutely, in fact it has already, disrupted my home life and my work life. Because of the way my building is shaped (Like a U, with the opening of the U facing the new construction project at 2383 University) I am interrupted on client calls by the noise, that is audible even through my headphones. My building shakes physically from the construction work. These last few weeks have been difficult at best. My sleep is disrupted in the mornings because of the noise. I've needed to conduct business after hours because of the noise, and with a 7 am start time for the sound variance, this will be disrupted even more.

While I understand the need to complete the project, a much more limited time frame in which to complete the work is warranted here. I cannot imagine what it will be like to have even more sound than what we are experiencing now and how that will impact my ability to live. Maybe the sound variance could be offered for limited hours each day so that I can schedule work and calls for the part of the day where they are not allowed to make noise? Even that would be helpful.

Small business owners have been given the shit end of the stick throughout this pandemic and this is another slap in the face to me and my employees. We are struggling to get our work done as it is. We are depressed, tired, over stimulated and overworked. These will be incredibly difficult weeks if the variance is allowed to pass. Please consider drastically shortening the time frame for the variance to impact those of us working from our homes in the area who have been traumatized by events over the last year and are just trying to hang on and get our work done and pay ourselves and our employees.

If the time frame is allowed and the variance does pass, please please please ensure that those of us who live in the area of the noise (I'm not sure if my building is more than 400 feet away...if it is 400 ft or more, please know, the sound is defining here) are notified of exactly when those noises will be taking place so that we can plan our schedules around the noise.

Again, I vehemently oppose the 6 week variance request as a resident and small business owner in the area.

Dr Garrett Hoffman
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"A dog can never tell you what she knows from the smells of the world, but you know, watching her, that you know almost nothing."

-Mary Oliver