

**From:** [Privratsky, Matt \(CI-StPaul\)](#)  
**To:** [Ben Levitz](#); [Stacy Levitz](#)  
**Cc:** [Ahmed, Faisa \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Marco, Tim](#); [\\*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Public hearing regarding noise variance for February 10 city Council meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 9, 2021 11:21:37 AM

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Hi Ben,

Thank you for reaching out. These seem like very real concerns and obviously since you've been through some construction processes before it's somewhat familiar, it not identical, challenges to deal with, too.

I'm copying Kraus Anderson here to make sure they know to reach out and be in direct communication, as well.

Matt Privratsky (he/him/his)  
Legislative Aide to Mitra Jalali  
Ward 4 - City Council

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**From:** Ben Levitz <levitz@studioonfire.com>  
**Date:** Friday, February 5, 2021 at 3:25 PM  
**To:** \*CI-StPaul\_Contact-Council <Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us>, "CouncilHearing (CI-StPaul)" <CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
**Cc:** Stacy Levitz <stacy@studioonfire.com>, #CI-StPaul\_Ward4 <Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
**Subject:** Public hearing regarding noise variance for February 10 city Council meeting

**Think Before You Click:** This email originated **outside** our organization.

Dear City Council,

Regarding the noise variance requested by Kraus Anderson Construction Company and Ramsey Company for the 2383 University apartments, I do have concerns.

I am a building owner / business owner just a half a block away at 825 Carleton St. Our building houses Studio On Fire and Dogwood Coffee. Our building is primarily brick in structure and dates back to the early 40s. It certainly is susceptible to damage because of proximity to the construction site. I am very concerned about what this noise is potentially doing to my structure. We have been in our building for over five years now through the construction of "The Ray" right across the street and "Union Flats" just up the block. During previous construction, our building was gone through by the construction company and photographed in a detailed way to document existing cracks and to discuss concerns. In case any additional issues were caused by their noise and vibration, we would have a baseline of before and after pics. Ramsey company has done no such due diligence. In fact, even though it is a bit further from our building, their equipment is causing more noise / vibration than any of the previous construction in the area we have experienced. Significantly more.

In addition to the concerns about noise damaging our structure, we have hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment that uses sensitive encoders and PLC's. If we have a problem during this time period with encoders on our printing equipment, we would expect the parties requesting variance to bear responsibility for repair.

I am surprised by the lack of outreach before they began construction. I would submit that for a variance to be granted, these parties should be required to do that due diligence work with the immediate neighbors. They have not contacted us as previous companies have before construction began. They should not receive a variance until they have done due diligence.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ben

**BEN LEVITZ** // President // with beard  
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