

From: [Keith Lindgren](#)
To: [Noecker, Rebecca \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Subject: Re: 695 Grand/Dixies proposal
Date: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:39:04 AM

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

Rebecca,

Thanks for your response! Please do add my message to the public record, I appreciate the offer.

Best regards,
Keith

On Tue, Jun 8, 2021 at 9:12 AM Noecker, Rebecca (CI-StPaul)
<Rebecca.Noecker@ci.stpaul.mn.us> wrote:

Dear Keith,

Welcome to the neighborhood and thank you for sharing your perspective on the proposed redevelopment at 695 Grand Ave. I will be keeping your thoughts in mind when this matter comes to us at the Council.

I'm glad you cc'd both the Zoning and Land Use Committee of the Summit Hill Association and Luis Pereira who directs our Planning Commission, as those will be the first bodies to consider the developer's application.

If you'd like your message below to be part of the public comment for the City Council hearing, please let me know and we will make sure to add it to the record.

Thank you again for reaching out to me.

Best,

Rebecca

Rebecca Noecker | Saint Paul City Councilmember, Ward 2

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From: Keith Lindgren <klindgren82@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 1:41 AM

To: ZLU@summithillassociation.org; info@summithillassociation.org; luiserangelmorales@gmail.com; simon.taghioff@gmail.com; Pereira, Luis (CI-StPaul) <Luis.Pereira@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Butler, Sonja (CI-StPaul) <sonja.butler@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Noecker, Rebecca (CI-StPaul) <Rebecca.Noecker@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Subject: 695 Grand/Dixies proposal

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All,

My name is Keith Lindgren, I am a new resident of Summit Hill. My wife and I moved here from downtown Minneapolis in March of this year. We love it here, and have found it to be varied and vibrant, from block to block as we enjoy finally being able to visit shops and restaurants after being vaccinated.

Please forgive me for writing this as a group email. As I am new to the neighborhood, I simply collected all the emails that I understood to be involved in the decision making around the planning and possible re-zoning of the Grand/Saint Albans corner. So this feels a bit impersonal, but I would love to chat with any/all of you on this topic, and about my new neighborhood in general.

While I am new to this neighborhood, I know all of the things about this neighborhood that guided us to move here, and it's safe to say the Reuter Walton proposal is the polar opposite of any of those things. I'm not naive, I understand that development is necessary, and I do expect to see change on that plot sooner rather than later. **But the proposed building design is antithetical to the character of the surrounding neighborhood.** This proposal would be unsuitable even if it were at an acceptable height, due to the clear contrast in style.

Reuter Walton's cynical 'take it or leave it' approach to this development as 'only possible if it is 5 stories' flies in the face of all the successful multi-use designs we see in other locations on Grand (and other nearby streets, for that matter). It frankly borders on gaslighting, and I don't understand why anyone would be willing to work with these people when they refuse to approach this development in good faith.

If anything, this proposal is a blindingly obvious example of exactly why zoning codes exist in the first place; to ensure the neighborhood doesn't get steamrolled by greedy developers. I strongly disagree with the premise that 'The final plans are the result of months of community engagement.' This proposal came in completely devoid of community engagement, and was cosmetically adjusted without addressing any of the most important concerns of the residents of Summit Hill.

I'm not sure if I'll be able to join the Tuesday evening meeting on this topic, so I wanted to make sure I communicated this before that conversation. Please do reach out if you have any questions for me, I would love to chat more on this topic.

Best regards,

Keith Lindgren