

From: [Elizabeth Gibba](#)
To: [Naylor, Racquel \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Date: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 2:01:06 PM

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

Thank you for this opportunity to respectfully express my FULL OPPOSITION to the proposed 695/Dixie's development project. As a resident of Summit Hill I am obviously appreciative and value the qualities inherent in this wonderful part of the Twin Cities. To live here is to accept stewardship, to make a commitment to protect its remarkable and unique attributes.

This has been handled terribly, leaving us wondering why petition signatures were omitted, why those claiming to represent our best interests seem so swayed to one side. We feel unheard and unrepresented. Having served as a board member of SHA, I am confounded by the lack of genuine effort to hear from and represent ALL affected parties. I own a home less than 2 blocks away and unless I scoured the website I would have NO way to track this process. Even as a former member, or perhaps because I am a former member, I am no longer included on the official email list.

When the Lunds/Byerlys consideration began, the Board felt ALL of Summit Hill should be aware and, rather than limiting notice to the very small footprint, we sent an easily identified, professionally printed correspondence, engendering a feeling of genuine interest.

Conflicts of interest abound. The chair of the ZLU committee made his **first** commitment to SHA, subsequently then to membership in the Planning Commission. He should have honored his **first** commitment **FIRST**, and recused himself from the second. His ubiquitous presence on local social media sites (many since deleted) sniping at those who disagreed with him was remarkable. His personal request of at least one opposing Board member to resign was, at best, high-handed.

The concept of 'appearance of impropriety' seems lost on them, as does the honest and accurate reflection of the feedback offered by so many.

The pricing of the new luxury apartments fly in the face of the City's public commitment to affordable housing, yet for some reason this doesn't seem to matter.

It is our responsibility to stand in the face of the challenges presented by special interests, be it a community council gone astray, or of one person's priority to leave to its family 'legacy'. I wouldn't ask it or expect such of my neighbors personally and I am disheartened this has been offered as the primary motivation. 'Economic feasibility' is offered as the rationale for overriding carefully reviewed and adopted existing zoning in our wonderful neighborhood, in an effort to force an outsized, poorly designed and uncharacteristic monstrosity into position to loom over the cherished historical buildings which contribute intrinsic value and for which we pay to steward, to maintain and contribute to the City's tax base. It is not the role of our City Council to ensure one family's financial legacy.

I thank you in advance for taking your leadership role in this situation quite seriously. This story will be told for years to come, the way the story ends is in your capable hands.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Gibba, homeowner
568 Grand Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102

--

Liz Gibba
651.747.7172

--

Liz Gibba
651.747.7172