



November 6, 2024

Honorable Mayor Carter
Honorable Members of the Saint Paul City Council
390 City Hall
15 Kellogg Boulevard West
St. Paul, MN 55102

Honorable Mayor Carter, Honorable Members of the Saint Paul City Council, Staff,

The City of Saint Paul's Business Review Council respectfully submits this letter to advise of concerns with and request a layover of the first reading of the current drive-through zoning proposal. The BRC has the following concerns with the zoning proposal in its current language:

- The current proposal will put Saint Paul businesses at a competitive disadvantage and will discourage new businesses to the City with the addition of this burdensome regulation to drive-thru operations. Many food businesses with drive-throughs have up to 60% of their revenue from this service.
- This will negatively impact consumers who desire more drive-thru services at pharmacies, banks, and food/beverage establishments, especially those who may be disabled or otherwise unable to easily exit their vehicles if they are caring for others in the vehicle.
- The close 7-5 vote of the Planning Commission highlights a need for further study and refinement. The lack of clarity exists in two areas:
 - Defining the problem the proposal is meant to solve based on information received thus far from presentations and materials provided to the BRC.
 - The level of engagement from the business community, especially current City of Saint Paul Drive-Through business owners, in the planning and drafting of proposed changes.

If you choose to layover this proposed zoning change, we will welcome further engagement and discussion to refine a solution. Thank you for your consideration of this request and concerns.

Sincerely,

R Lynn Pingol, Chair
Business Review Council