

Liz Lee
State Representative

District 67A



Minnesota House of Representatives

July 1, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to share my support for JB Vang's proposed redevelopment of the city-owned portion of the former Hamm's Brewery site on Saint Paul's Eastside because of the housing and economic development goals that it will help our community meet.

I understand JB Vang's proposal includes much needed affordable housing at the site with a range of affordability from 30% to 60% AMI, which will directly benefit the current residents of this area. I understand the project combines 110 units of family-friendly new construction with 86 units of artist-style loft housing in the historic brewery buildings to provide an array of options.

Another aspect of JB Vang's proposal that I appreciate is the commercial marketplace that will offer Eastside entrepreneurs an opportunity to start or grow their business. I understand this will include an ownership component for these local businesses to build equity within the marketplace.

The outdoor site improvements in JB Vang's proposal will also significantly improve the connectivity of the area for pedestrians and bicyclists to travel to, and throughout the space, utilizing new connections the community has expressed is a priority. The new indoor and outdoor spaces can also be used for community gatherings and events to serve the larger Eastside community.

Finally, I really look forward to this project because I believe the redevelopment plan from JB Vang will reactivate several of the long-standing vacant buildings on the property and help achieve several of our community's goals and priorities for this area. This plan has significant community support because of the benefits it will bring to the neighborhood- including much needed affordable housing, commercial opportunities for small and emerging businesses, bike and pedestrian connections to parks and trail amenities, and indoor and outdoor community event spaces. Overall, the rehabilitation of these historic buildings and construction of new housing is an investment that will benefit the Eastside community for many years.

I support the ongoing efforts of the city to ensure this development is successfully completed. Please let me know if there is anything I can do in my capacity as a state official. I have attend one of the many community engagement events held by JB Vang, and I know that the community is eager for a project like this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Liz Lee", written in a cursive style.

Representative Liz Lee