

From: [Pat](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_LH-Licensing](#)
Cc: [Tom Galligan](#); [Mary Tipping](#)
Subject: Comments on Groveland Tap Application
Date: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:43:54 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments regarding the application of the Groveland Tap adding a new Outdoor Service Area(patio).

We have lived at 1830 Berkeley Ave (north side) since 1986. Although we do not have some of the problems our neighbors who share the alley with the Tap, we share all of their concerns and those of entire neighborhood.

We were on the Zoom meeting of the MHCC Housing and Land Use Committee on March 22nd.

Prior to providing comments on specific issues, we would like to respond to a comment made by Ms. Stephanie Shimp one of the owners of the Tap. during the discussion regarding the current/growing parking problem on our block by her staff and customers she emphasized the Tap is a “community restaurant” with many of our neighbors eating there. We agree, but the owners of our homes are the closest “neighbors” many of which intentionally ordered take out from the Tap during the pandemic to support the Tap when they could not have seating inside. Ms. Shimp also stated that her staff canvassed the neighborhood to inform of the expansion and patio. Not one of us on the Zoom meeting recalled any staff member knocking and talking to us.

We are baffled how an outside addition of this size which will most likely increase the potential parking, noise, trash, lighting and garage access would be approved without any input from the neighbors. The patio fence leaves little room for the cars to back out of the garage.

During the pandemic the Tap had their tables in their parking lot and our neighbors on the north side may have have noise and trash issues which could increase with additional number of patio tables added. It will be difficult for those across the alley to enjoy their backyard if there is a significant increase in noise.

Trash has been a problem and Ms. Shimp stated she will have her staff place more emphasis on checking for trash daily and we applaud her commitment and encourage ongoing monitoring for compliance.

The other major issue that concerns us is the growing number of staff and customers parking in front of our homes. Parking for our family was difficult at times last summer and we assume it will be even more difficult with the additional patio tables. There is no easy answer to this issue. Permit parking is an option many of us don’t really want and would only push the problem over one block. Consideration of the parking problem needs to be given by the Tap and the city.

We need to again ask how an outdoor expansion was approved without notice and input from the neighbors who would be impacted. The first most of us became aware of the patio construction was when Mary and Bob Tipping who live directly behind the Tap sent a notice to the neighborhood.

Conditions 6-10 on the application which we understand were originally for the street/parking lot will now apply to the new patio. The question is how will they be monitored and enforced.

Finally, the Groveland Tap has been a good neighbor, wonderful place to gather and eat for the many years we have lived here. It was the King&I years back and we hope that our neighborhood continues to enjoy with mutual consideration and cooperation.

Thank you
Pat/Tom Galligan

1830 Berkeley Ave
651-690-5870

Sent from my iPad