

Mr. Carchedi is misleading in his statement where he stated in his application that it was always the intention to build and utilize this structure for the purpose of operating a sober/recovery/supportive housing facility. This unit listed on the market for sale several times before its intended purpose was redefined.

The distance between supportive housing units or programs, to avoid clustering, is a factor in the approval or denial of the requested variance, but other considerations must be measured. My neighbors and I were looking forward to greeting four new families at 418 Sherburne and was not aware that a supportive/sober housing unit for 24 recovering adult males was being proposed.

Community impact assessment, informed neighbors and an inclusive process is vital to establish acceptance, trust and stability. The housing of 24 individuals under a single roof, subdivided into four units, which by definition, is clustering, and may pose a cultural shock to neighboring residents due to the abrupt introduction and number of new qualifying tenants.

Our neighborhood is a collection of diverse, retired, working class and low to moderate income people. We have witnessed our share of drug dealings, overdoses, physical violence, prostitution gun violence, home invasions, auto theft and burglary, mental breakdowns and assorted behaviors that challenge the appeal of a neighborhood to long-term residents not interested in relocation, and to new commers seeking affordable housing. We have experienced many positive and stabilizing changes as well as stressing over too many destructive setbacks caused by individuals negating to be good neighbors. Our neighborhood itself is in recovery.

Mr. Carchedi states that there are no problems thus far and his neighbors "love" him, the concept, and tenants. We are in the "courting" stage of

this relationship, with a small number of tenants currently occupying the unit. Once full capacity is achieved this is likely to change. These are human beings, with specific challenges, who do not have a record of good decision making consistently. There is no plan for on-site staffing, but instead there is a reliance on peer-to-peer supervision after hours, long after Mr. Carchedi has left for his St. Anthony home. Neighbors have already been experiencing and reporting concerning behaviors and suspicious traffic patterns around this unit. Who are we to contact, other than law enforcement when there is conflict?

The opposition expressed is not a rejection of supportive housing or the specific category of the tenants being serviced at 418 Sherburne. What is being contested are the concerns related to issues of due process, density, compatibility, neighborhood impact and location appropriateness.

The name of the entity itself, "Investment Recovery Homes" should be restated as "Recovery of Investment Homes" I am convinced that it is Mr. Carchedi's recovery, financially, appears to be the priority. The tenants are secondary beneficiaries. Their rent, food and other services will be provided primarily through public funds, which creates an additional justification for a more inclusive and public process in this matter.

I ask that the city council deny the variance request.

Robert McClain