

From: [Meng Xiong](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 23-22
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 6:16:30 PM

I oppose this proposed ordinance. My firearms are already locked. You can't force this on other people who depend on firearms for additional forms of security.

Signed,
Meng Xiong

From: [Mary Ann Jackson](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#); [Beverly Ferguson](#)
Cc: [Terri Hawthorne](#); [GeorgAnn Burns](#); [Gary Brandenburg](#); [Leslie Kratz](#); [Linda Schloff](#); [Cynthia McArthur](#)
Subject: Re: ORD 23-22
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 6:29:57 PM

I agree!

On Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 10:49:50 AM CDT, Beverly Ferguson <bevferguson@icloud.com> wrote:

I am strongly in favor of passing ORD 23-22 Safe Gun Storage. As a society our gun deaths and injury are out of control. We must do everything we can to stop this.

Beverly Ferguson
2122 Carroll Ave
Saint Paul, MN 55104
651-644-1946

Sent from my iPad

From: [sofia ali](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Ord 23-22 In Favor
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:12:58 AM

IN SUPPORT

Dear St. Paul City Council,

I am writing in support of Ord 23-22. While I understand it won't end gun violence, it will take an important first step towards making St. Paul safer. I am a mother and a Family Physician and have seen how gun violence tears our community apart. I also sit on the board of Face to Face, a youth services organization serving St. Paul. Gun violence is an everyday reality for our teens.

Five years ago I joined over 20,000 people at the Minnesota Capitol for the March for Our Lives. We were marching after the Parkland school massacre. We needed legislators to pass gun safety laws then, and they didn't. Due to this inaction there have been so many youth killed by guns since that march. Please support Ord 22-23. Any step is a step in the right direction. Even if just one life is saved - a child who doesn't stumble across an unsecured gun, or a suicidal person who can't get access to a firearm as readily, it will be worth it.

Thanks for all you do!

Sofia Ali, MD, MPH

From: [David Eide](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 23-22
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:12:59 AM
Importance: High

Dear Members of the St. Paul City Council, I am contacting you to voice my opposition to Ordinance 23-22. The proposed firearm storage ordinance not only violates Minnesota's preemption law, but it also misrepresents the term "discharge" in an attempt to justify its enactment. Minnesota law clearly states that local governments cannot regulate firearms, with the exception of discharge. Storage is not discharge, and attempting to classify it as such is dishonest. Please reconsider this proposed ordinance and uphold the state law. Best regards,

David Eide

Concerned law abiding Citizen

From: [Tony Townley](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Changes to Chapter 225
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:13:02 AM

Dear St. Paul City Council

I am writing as a resident of Minnesota that routinely visits St. Paul in opposition to the proposed storage of firearms ordinance.

This ordinance burdens only people who wish to have a firearm to protect themselves and their home from criminals intent on doing harm.

This ordinance is also in clear violation of Minnesota statute 471.633. If this City Council cannot be expected to follow the law, how can it ask it's citizenry and visitors to follow it's laws?

The proposed ordinance will have no impact whatsoever on criminal elements however will embolden police searches of homes of marginalized groups, something that the St. Paul Police have demonstrated time and again that it is more than willing to do and to tragic ends.

Please do not allow this ordinance to pass.

Thank you
Tony Townley, Northfield MN

From: [TJ Pontius](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Subject: St Paul city ordinance (URGENT)
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:13:06 AM

Dear St. Paul City Council Members,

I would like to express my opposition to Ordinance 23-22 regarding firearm storage. Although well-intentioned, the belief that locking up firearms will prevent theft is unrealistic. Many gun locks can be easily dismantled with basic tools, and our city is already plagued with criminals using electric saws to remove catalytic converters.

Considering the resourcefulness of criminals, it seems unlikely that a simple lock will deter theft or misuse, especially when lawful gun owners must disarm in "gun-free zones" like St. Paul City Hall. I kindly request that you reconsider this proposed ordinance.

Sincerely,
Law abiding resident

From: [Nichole Swanson](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Subject: ORD 23 22
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:13:10 AM

Why are you doing this? It is against the MN state law and not only that, it's incredibly anti-feminist. Why can't I defend myself? Why make women sitting ducks. Why? Please that...

Nichole Swanson

From: [D. S.](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)
Subject: OPPOSE THE ORDINANCE
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:13:13 AM

Dear Members of the St. Paul City Council,

I am contacting you to voice my opposition to Ordinance 23-22. The proposed firearm storage ordinance not only violates Minnesota's preemption law, but it also misrepresents the term "discharge" in an attempt to justify its enactment.

Minnesota law clearly states that local governments cannot regulate firearms, with the exception of discharge. Storage is not discharge, and attempting to classify it as such is dishonest. Please reconsider this proposed ordinance and uphold the state law. This is a dishonest way circumvent the law.

Best regards,

Daric Sitzman

From: [Connor Daine](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Opposition to Proposed Gun Control Ordinance
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:13:19 AM

Dear Council Members,

My name is Connor Daine and in the next month, I will be a resident of Marshall Avenue, I am weekly in the Cathedral Hill Neighborhood and at the Capitol frequently.

I'm writing to you in stern opposition to your proposed storage laws for several simple reasons.

1. Firearms are by their nature defensive tools of exigent need. If I am in fear of imminent death or great bodily harm, that firearm needs to be ready immediately. Not acquired from one safe, while my ammunition needs to be retrieved separately. This would merely hamper well intended citizens from defending themselves while doing nothing to address the violence on our streets.
2. This ordinance is illegal on its face and will immediately face challenge, the burdens of losing such a lawsuit will be passed to the taxpayer. It is illegal under state supremacy law.
3. It will do nothing to address the rampant crime in the city and the failure to prosecute the very offenders citizens are in fear of having to defend their lives from.

In closing, I urge you all to oppose this fruitless and unlawful attempt to hamper Law abiding citizens right to defend themselves.

Thank you,

Connor Daine

From: [Jacob Erickson](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Subject: RE: Ordinance 23-22
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:15:10 AM

Hello St Paul City Council members,

I am writing to raise stern opposition to Ordinance 23-22. As it is written and its general spirit it is in violation of our state's preemption statute (MN Statute 471.633) and the US Supreme Court ruling of DC v. Heller (2008).

Please do not waste your time, nor the cities limited resources by passing this as it will require the people spend money to litigate your unconstitutional mistake.

Jacob Erickson
967 Burr St
St Paul, MN 55130

From: [Tony Aarts](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Support for gun storage ordinance
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:38:47 AM

Dear Council Members:

In anticipation of tomorrow's city council hearing regarding the gun storage ordinance, I wanted to write to share my support. I wish I could be there tomorrow to speak with other community members in support of this language.

This is a common sense and practical measure to help ensure gun safety and to aid in the prevention of possible gun violence. There is a wealth of data and evidence surrounding the potential for serious harm when firearms and ammo are not properly secured. There are those, like the MN Gun Owners Caucus, that will imply this impedes on civil/personal liberties, which is asinine and dangerous. If someone chooses to own a firearm, that is their choice, but as a society we have to have real and practical expectations of how something as serious as a gun should be handled from storage to maintenance to actual usage.

I've lived in Minneapolis and St. Paul for about 15 years now. Much of my upbringing was down in Dodge County. I grew up in Dodge Center and Kasson-Mantorville. Fairly small farm towns. I grew up with many families that are gun owners and hunters. In all of the years I spent hanging out with friends, visiting, etc., I always knew that there were weapons in a number of homes, mostly hunting rifles. That said, I can distinctly remember the diligent and rigid way that they were stored, handled, and even talked about. They were in gun safes or gun lockers, secured, ammo was stored separately, also secured many times. Chambers loaded with dummy rounds, etc. My point is this: any person that comes to argue that this is against "liberty" or not what gun ownership is about is simply trying to force the dangerous and reckless notion that gun ownership should be more casual, more relaxed, and frankly, more flaunted. It's a gun culture mentality that is permissive and obsessive and a danger.

I've grown up with hunters, military veterans, and folks in the national guard. I have never heard a single one talk about gun ownership in such casual terms or remark that anything like this ordinance would be "oppressive." They would all, to the last person, say it is incredibly serious, and firearms should always be stored and secured for safety.

On the flipside, I have also seen more reckless and casual gun owners. It is deeply concerning. It can lead to horrible accidents and tragic loss of life.

This is a good ordinance. One that is practical and has an immediate and tangible tie to increasing public safety for everyone.

I hope it is adopted.

Thank you,
Tony Aarts
1878 Juliet Ave.

From: [Katherine Cairns](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Written testimony of MN-ACP supporting Ordinance 23-22
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 11:12:59 AM
Attachments: [St Paul MNACP safe storage 4.26.23.pdf](#)

St. Paul City Council members

Dear Council President Amy Brendmoen and Members of the St. Paul City Council:

On behalf of the Minnesota chapter of the American College of Physicians, we respectfully encourage you to vote to support amending Chapter 225 of the St Paul Legislative Code, Ord 23-22. The Minnesota chapter of the American College of Physicians (MN-ACP) represents nearly 2500 statewide internal medicine physicians and internal medicine trainees. We represent over 180 members who live or practice in St Paul.

MN-ACP is concerned about the rising number of firearms-related injuries and deaths in our cities, state, and nationwide. **In Saint Paul alone, there were 217 gunshot wounds and 32 homicides in 2022.** *As physicians, we see first-hand the devastating impact of such violence on our patients and their families.* We are the ones who often inform and counsel families that have lost a loved one; we treat survivors of firearms violence who often face lifelong disabilities and trauma, and we treat their family members. *Many of these deaths and injuries from firearms are preventable if lawmakers would work together to pass meaningful reforms to keep firearms safely stored from those at the greatest and most immediate risk of harming themselves or others, while respecting and preserving second amendment rights.*

We strongly support the proposed amendment (Ord. 23-22) to Chapter 225. The rising trends for firearms not safely stored in St Paul is alarming:

- In the City of Saint Paul, injuries and homicides resulting directly and indirectly from firearms discharge have continued to increase with 191 gunshot wounds and 29 homicides in 2020, 205 gunshot wounds and 30 homicides in 2021 and 217 gunshot wounds and 32 homicides in 2022;
- The number of firearm incidents occurring in Saint Paul schools was 2 in 2020, 3 in 2021 and increased to 8 in 2022 (8); and
- In 2022, of the 603 firearms recovered by the Saint Paul Police Department, firearm theft from auto is the highest count for stolen firearms at 97.

The proposed amendment is for responsible gun ownership practices through safe gun storage, securing ammunition and including gun lock devices which can reduce and prevent the tragedies associated with the discharge of firearms left unsecured. For those who are opposed to safe firearm storage when they travel through or visit St. Paul, this ordinance is as much about reducing injury/death as it is about reducing firearm theft.

Thank you for your consideration and we strongly encourage you to pass Please contact Minnesota.ACP@gmail.com if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely yours,

Tseganesh Selameab, MD, FACP
MN-ACP Governor-elect
Ward 4 resident

Sally Berryman, MD FACP
MN-ACP Health Policy Committee Chair
Ward 4 resident

Katherine Cairns, MPH, MBA
MN-ACP Executive Director
Ward 4- 1992 Grand Ave.

“Reducing Firearm Injuries and Deaths in the United States: A Position Paper, American College of Physicians, November, 2018 https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/10.7326/M18-1530?_ga=2.153324593.822355407.1678304615-1357710488.1639494317&_gac=1.260012536.1677191906.Cj0KCOiAutyFBhCMARIsAMgcRJT8g87CjOndsfiKuHPw9S4nCN9PRzMI38KUE1XFUBivxoF4coawRs4aAigFEALw_wcB

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Katherine Cairns
Executive Director
Minnesota Chapter of the American College of Physicians
1041 Grand Ave. #215 St. Paul, MN 55105
651-492-1994 651-699-7798 (fax)
mnchapter.acponline.org
Minnesota.ACP@gmail.com
[MN-ACP LinkedIn](#) and Twitter: [@mn_acp](#)

Save the Date:

April 27-29, 2023- ACP Internal Medicine:2023 [Info/Registration](#)

April 28, 2023- MN-ACP and Mayo Alumni Reception at 5:30pm

May 23-24, 2023- ACP Leadership Day in Washington DC [Information](#)

April 25, 2023

St. Paul City Council members

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MN-ACP Governor-elect
Ward 4 resident

Sally Berryman, MD

Sally Berryman, MD FACP
MN-ACP Health Policy Committee Chair
Ward 4 resident



Katherine Cairns, MPH, MBA
MN-ACP Executive Director
Ward 4- 1992 Grand Ave.

From: [Polly Heintz](#)
To: [Greg Weiner](#)
Subject: FW: Support for Gun Storage Ordinance
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 12:25:40 PM

You probably got this already

Polly Heintz | Executive Assistant to Councilmember Jane Prince

Pronouns: she/her

P: 651-266-8673

E: polly.heintz@ci.stpaul.mn.us

From: Tony Aarts <aartstony18@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 11:16 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward2 <Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward3 <Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward4 <Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward5 <Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; *CI-StPaul_CC-Ward6 <CC-Ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward7 <Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Subject: Support for Gun Storage Ordinance

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

Dear Council Members:

In anticipation of tomorrow's city council hearing regarding the gun storage ordinance, I wanted to write to share my support. I wish I could be there tomorrow to speak with other community members in support of this language.

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This is a good ordinance. One that is practical and has an immediate and tangible tie to increasing public safety for everyone.

I hope it is adopted.

Thank you,
Tony Aarts
1878 Juliet Ave.

From: [Kristin Koziol](#)
To: [Greg Weiner](#)
Subject: Fw: , Ord 23-22 legislative code 225
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 1:03:36 PM

Kristin Koziol | Executive Assistant to Councilmember Russel Balenger

Pronouns: she/her

P: 651-266-8613

E: kristin.koziol@ci.stpaul.mn.us

From: KC Cox <kelabrescue@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 01:02 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1 <Ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward5 <Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward2 <Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Subject: , Ord 23-22 legislative code 225

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

Council Members:

I write in opposition to this amendment.

It amazes me that in times, you think that the good citizens of St Paul should NOT be able to defend themselves from the lawless ones who roam our streets.

The number one job of the city of St Paul is to protect its citizens- we don't have enough police officers to make it safe for us. And you want to make it even easier for the lawless and make our homes and business less safe. This change will make everyone less safe. Not a good idea. With this amendment, I have to tell the intruder to wait until I can unlock my weapon and then load it up before I can protect myself from them. Do you think I will be successful in defending myself?

Until you can hire enough police officers to make St Paul a safe place to live, amendments like this need to be opposed.

Thank you

KC Cox

From: [Polly Heintz](#)
To: [Greg Weiner](#)
Subject: FW: Safe gun storage
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 2:40:07 PM

From: S BENOLKEN <SUEBLAKER@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 2:36 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward7 <Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Safe gun storage

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

Please count me as a supporter of the possible new ordinance regarding safe gun storage.
This is very important for our community!
Let me know what I can do to assist passage or outreach.
Thank you for your work on this!!!!
FYI I live at 1004 Wakefield ave.

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