

From: [Kristin Koziol](#)
To: [Greg Weiner](#)
Subject: Fw: Res PH-24-39 Saint Paul City Council Sound Variance -Pro-Life Action Ministries
Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 10:23:00 AM
Attachments: [Final City Council Lent 2024.pdf](#)

Please attach the email below and attachments for RES PH 24-39 to the agenda. I already replied to Mr. Walker.

From: Brian Walker <brian.walker@plam.org>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 05:25 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4 <Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: #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_Ward6 <Ward6@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward7 <Ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Brian Walker <brian.walker@plam.org>
Subject: Res PH-24-39 Saint Paul City Council Sound Variance -Pro-Life Action Ministries

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

Dear Saint Paul City Council:

My name is Brian Walker, Program Director for Pro-Life Action Ministries. Our request for a sound variance permit per Council motion and vote has been held over until Tuesday, March 13 at 3:30 pm. The attachments will address the concerns of the Council regarding our event. The three attachments have my letter and pictures of the sound system.

Thanks for your time. I will be at the meeting on the 13th.

Brian Walker
Program Director
Pro-Life Action Ministries
1163 Payne Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55130
651-797-6363
brian.walker@plam.org

To St. Paul City Councilmembers:

Mitra Jalali

Rebecca Noecker

Saura Jost

HwaJeong Kim

Nelsie Yang

Cheniqua Johnson

Anika Bowie

From: Brian Walker, Program Director, Pro-Life Action Ministries

Re: Sound Variance Request for Friday, March 29, Program 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM (8:00 AM) sound check, Special Event Permit area Charles Avenue from Pillsbury to Vandalia.

Good afternoon. I wish to extend my apology for not being in attendance for the initial meeting regarding Pro-Life Action Ministries' request for a sound variance, I was seriously ill.

Even though Council President Jalali stated that sound variances are usually granted, regardless of the content of the program or speech, she stated a concern about access to Planned Parenthood and as a result she submitted a motion to have our request to be "laid over" until March 13, at 3:30 PM.

Some brief background: Pro-Life Action Ministries has held 12 Solemn Good Friday Prayer Vigils at Planned Parenthood since 2012. Coordinating closely with St. Paul Police, we have addressed any and all concerns presented. Charles Street is closed off from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm (times reflecting set-up with sound check and tear-down), with no disruption to Planned Parenthood. For nine of those years, the street has been shared half and half with Planned Parenthood which conducted a street party simultaneous to our prayer vigil. This is the same location as Planned Parenthood's own rally in May 2022.

We have an exemplary record of cooperation with Saint Paul Police Special Operations unit under several commanders throughout these years.

Planned Parenthood/pro-choice attendees, staged their event on the western portion of Charles Ave. closer to the residential area a half a block away, have had higher sound levels and live music that at times have competed with the ability for our attendees to hear our program in addition to the high volume of commercial truck traffic on Vandailia Ave.

I'll address some sound amplification concerns here:

- Size and power of our sound system: We use a Yamaha Stagepass 500 powered by a gel-battery, we do not use emission producing gas powered generators. - see picture attached. This is not a large system. The width of the speakers side-by-side = 27" and speaker depth is 10". See pictures attached.
- Another concern was that our speakers were aimed at the concrete wall across the street to disrupt workers and clients within Planned Parenthood (671 Vandalia). We have never intentionally pointed the speakers to echo or reverberate off concrete walls to disrupt any activity within Planned Parenthood's building. We aim the speakers down the street so our attendees can join in singing hymns. If an adjustment of projected sound is preferable, the speakers pivot 360 degrees to accommodate any concerns.
- Our event is not a protest. The only sign we have within our permit area is a full size cross.

Thank you for the opportunity to address your concerns. It is our hope that the Council for the stated reasons would grant our request for a sound variance. If the Council has any more questions and concerns, we'd be happy to address them.

Brian Walker

Program Director

Pro-Life Action Ministries

1163 Payne Avenue

Saint Paul, MN 55130

651-797-6363

brian.walker@plam.org



