From: SAGGS Block Club

To: <u>*CI-StPaul PED-ZoningCommitteeSecretary</u>
Cc: <u>Susan St. John; Siegworth, Emma (CI-StPaul)</u>

Subject: PETITION: A better way petition, with updated numbers. Opposition to ZF#21-269-061,695 Grand Cup and

Variances

Date: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 5:25:03 PM

Attachments: Map of Petition Signer Addresses - Ward 2.pdf

Petition Group 2 Scanned 7-11-21 - Jul 11 2021 - 10-16 PM.pdf

Petitions Scanned 7-12-21 - Jul 12 2021 - 4-21 PM.pdf

Dixie"s Petitions 6-24-21 sorted copy.pdf

Dear Commissioners and Secretary:

Please include this cover letter with public comment.

My name is Susan St John, of 25 St Albans St S, in a multifamily building. I shared the A Better Way petition two weeks ago. I am having computer difficulty and health issues due to the stress of this proposal, so I have asked my Block Club to help me send the following email on my behalf. This letter includes updated numbers on the petition against the 695 Grand/Dixies proposal.

At the July 1st, 2021 hearing on the rezoning, we were told that the rezoning was separate from our objection to the building. We object to the size (height, lot coverage, bulk) and the site planning (placement on the lot) of the proposed building. Just today, the staff report was issued that cited the *potential* rezoning as supportive of granting the variances. We feel bamboozled. Last hearing we couldn't say it was too big, but now that T3 has been *recommended*, we can't use the East Grand overlay to object to the size anymore?! How can a *potential rezoning*, one **that hasn't even been granted**, be used to justify variances from the more restrictive overlay district? When there are two zoning districts, the more restrictive applies.

What is our recourse?

Updated petition totals:

New Total: 465

Residents: 215

Shopper/Visitor/Nearby Neighbors: 187

Bus. Owners/Employees: 63

My Block Club has mapped the signers, to disprove the false assertion that opposition is limited to those within a block or two of the proposal. The opposition is widespread, among neighbors who value and have invested in

Grand Avenue, Summit Hill, and our neighboring neighborhoods. Residents do want more housing, but we want **middle density** that is compatible with our neighborhoods. **Please, listen to us.**

This map was prepared based on the earlier scanned petition, and does not include the new signers I am presenting now. It was prepared by my neighbor with higher technical skills than I.

My block is 100% multifamily. We support multifamily housing, and we want more housing, especially affordable housing, but I am here to present more signatures on the petition against this development as proposed for 695 Grand/Dixies.

The Petition presented has been **collected by volunteers** in a short time, starting a few days after the application for 695 Grand/Dixies development was filed.

These signatures were gathered in person through the pandemic, heatwave temperatures and in the rainy weather of the last week. This was 100% volunteer effort and the signatures are 100% from the actual community — real people who know and value Grand Avenue and the Summit Hill neighborhood.

Neighbors and Grand Ave supporters were reached by walking the neighborhood. The vast majority of the signatures were collected on the sidewalks of Grand Avenue and neighboring streets, from the people who were walking by. Another large portion were collected by popping into Grand Avenue businesses, and from the porches of residents. These signatures are from people who visit Grand Avenue, who live near Grand Avenue, and who care deeply about Grand Avenue and its success. They also care about the success and livability of the neighborhood, because we need each other.

The petition reads:

A Better Way for Grand Avenue in Saint Paul

We oppose the 695 Grand/Dixies project proposal—which violates all existing zoning codes. We oppose the proposed rezoning, conditional use permit, and all modifications and exceptions to current zoning. We support a better way for those who live, visit, shop, eat, walk, and bike on Grand Avenue.

I support a balanced, mixed-use project that meets current zoning regulations, with no variances or other zoning exceptions.

Sincerely,

Susan St John SAGGS Block Club

ATTACHMENTS

Newly scanned pages of signed petitions:

Previously scanned pages of signed position:

James Hill

Demand A Better Way for Dixies on Grand Development

A Better Way

to add housing density, support local businesses, and maintain neighborhood character & scale

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James Hill

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Dixies on Grand Development

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Page 2. Petition: A Better Way for Grand Avenue in Saint Paul

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10. Jim Hayes 794 Linwood Ave St. Paul, MN 55705
11. Michelle John Price 877 Lincoln St. Paul, MN 55105
12. Anne Pantolich 760 Linwood Avo, St. Bul, MN
12. Anne Pontolich 760 Linwood Avo, St. Bul, MN 5510
14. Stere Kozachek 832 Fairmount Ave, 55/05
15. Was Hamilto 391 Woodlaws Ave 55105
16. Ayla V. Da Him (9 St. Alburg St South, 3A Sand Pan 155105
17. Kalli (ox 721 Fairmount Are St. Paul MN 53105
18. LYAN RADEMACHER 713 FAIRMOUNT AVE. ST. FAUL, MN 55/05
19. Michael Wenger 818 Goodnoh Aye. St. Paul, MN SSIOS
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Demand A Better Way for Dixies on Grand Development

A Better Way

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