

From: [Marvalyne Tripp](#)
To: [Michael Driscoll](#); [#CI-StPaul_Ward3](#)
Subject: RE: St Thomas Arena
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 9:38:59 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hello Michael,

Thank you for writing into Ward 3 and for sharing your opposition to the arena being built by UST. Your message is important to us and has been shared with Councilmember Jost. Your message is also being forwarded to be added to the public record.

Best,
Marvalyne

Marvalyne Tripp

Executive Assistant to Councilmember Saura Jost

Pronouns: She/Her

Saint Paul City Council Ward 3

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Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

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Marvalyne.Tripp@ci.stpaul.mn.us

www.StPaul.gov



SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

From: Michael Driscoll <midriscoll@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 8:33 PM
To: [#CI-StPaul_Ward3](#) <Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: St Thomas Arena

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

Councilperson Jost,

I would like to formally register my opposition to the arena being built by the University of Saint Thomas. I am certain you have received a great deal of communication opposing this building and I am certain you are aware of the very intense opposition that those in the neighborhood have demonstrated. One only needs to walk the streets in Macalester-Groveland, Highland Park, and Union Park and see the yard signs urging this structure not be built. In other words, there are a great number of people opposed to this.

We have lived in the Macalester- Groveland area for close to thirty years and have watched UST encroach on the neighborhood little by little. This is their biggest and most impactful move.

Apparently, UST doesn't care that people are concerned about the disruption the crowds of people, the traffic, and parking problems that this will cause for our neighborhoods. I am hoping our elected representatives will take a stand on this issue. Surely, as our Ward 3 representative, you know how strongly your constituents feel about this issue and I am asking you to take a strong stand against this construction.

Michael M. Driscoll
310 Mississippi River Blvd S
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From: [Peter Sajevic](#)
To: [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#)
Subject: City Council Meeting - 6.12.2024 - APC 24-2
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 9:18:36 AM

Dear City Council Members of St. Paul,

I am a 1993 University of St. Thomas graduate and I am writing to express my support for the UST multi-purpose arena at 2260 Summit Avenue.

I believe that allowing the multi-purpose arena to be located on campus is the best way to reduce traffic congestion. Students and the athletes will be able to walk to games, rather than drive. Currently, the hockey players drive to Mendota Heights for practices and games 5-6 times a week. In addition, the basketball games are already being played on campus, so the traffic for those games is already occurring.

The multi-purpose arena will be a tremendous asset to the City of St. Paul and represents a significant private investment in the City of St. Paul. I believe that the University of St. Thomas has worked very hard to address the concerns of the neighbors and the City and that the multi-purpose arena will be a tremendous asset to the City of St. Paul.

Sincerely,

Pete Sajevic

From: [Peter Sajevic](#)
To: [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#)
Subject: City Council Meeting - 6.12.2024 - APC 24-2
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 9:18:35 AM

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Sincerely,

Pete Sajevic

From: [Kristin Koziol](#)
To: [Greg Weiner](#)
Subject: Fw: UST proposed arena
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 8:34:26 AM

From: Liz Mcdevitt <liz.mcdevitt@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 06:32 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4 <Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: UST proposed arena

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

Dear City Council Person Jalali,
As a resident of the ward you represent, I respectfully ask that you do not approve the building of the UST arena in the southern part of its campus. It will have significant negative impacts on the environment somewhat similar to what we experience due to the Allianz stadium.
Sincerely
Liz McDevitt
1716 Marshall Avenue
St Paul MN 55104
651-646-9659

From: [Kristin Koziol](#)
To: [Greg Weiner](#)
Subject: Fw: Arena
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 8:34:13 AM

From: Flannery Delaney <flannerydelaney@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 07:27 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4 <Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Arena

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

Dear Mitra-

Please lookout for the neighborhood by denying UST to build an arena. This isn't a good plan for St. Paul or for the environment. More cars and traffic never contributes to a city's overall health. UST hasn't addressed congestion issues that already exist and this will only make matters worse. Thank you for your consideration.

Flannery Delaney
2126 Lincoln Avenue

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From: [Kristin Koziol](#)
To: [Greg Weiner](#)
Subject: Fw: UST arena plan
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 8:33:47 AM

From: Alice Johnson <alice.lifeshift@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 09:14 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4 <Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: UST arena plan

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

Hello Mitra

As a lifelong St Paulite and 25+ year resident of Macalester-Groveland I would like to register my strong concerns and disapproval of the the UST arena plan. It is hard to see how this benefits our neighborhood in any way and I don't understand why the city has abandoned so many of its core principles for development when it comes to this plan. This will make life miserable for pedestrians, bikers, residents all around the arena. Why we have to pay for USTs poor planning for their athletic facilities is beyond me.

I think all of us in this neighborhood would appreciate hearing more from the city council about why this has been approved and how this will be a benefit to our city and neighborhood.

Thank you for considering my opinion and for your service to St. Paul

Alice Johnson

Alice Lightner Johnson
LifeShift Services, LLC
651-307-8513

From: [Kristin Koziol](#)
To: [Greg Weiner](#)
Subject: Fw: Oppose St. Thomas 5,500 Sports and Entertainment Center over Environmental and Sustainability Concerns
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 8:33:34 AM

From: K <kjames725@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 08:00 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4 <Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Fw: Oppose St. Thomas 5,500 Sports and Entertainment Center over Environmental and Sustainability Concerns

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

Dear Councilmember Jalali,

We are writing to ask you to oppose the site plan for the proposed St. Thomas 5,500 Sports and Entertainment Center due to environmental concerns. While the site plan is consistent with current ordinances relating to construction, we believe it is inconsistent with the City of St. Paul's sustainability goals.

Traffic will increase dramatically around residential streets and alleys as visitors search for parking and stalled traffic diverts to less congestive corridors. This will increase greenhouse gases in our residential neighborhoods and poses a significant threat to pedestrian traffic. Traffic will be backed up on Cretin both before and after events. In addition, there is no accessible rapid transit and bus schedules and transfers will be affected. At this point, there is not a reasonable, workable traffic management plan.

This proposal is not "pedestrian friendly" and it is certainly not neighborhood friendly.

Please vote against approval.

Karen James and John Kingrey
2258 Fairmount Ave.

From: [Bobbi Strom](#)
To: [#CI-StPaul_Council](#)
Subject: University of St. Thomas
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 10:11:22 PM

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

I am writing to show my support for the University of St. Thomas getting the entertainment venue passed.

It will not only benefit the University students and athletes; it will bring many opportunities for the surrounding community to flourish.

This is an opportunity to have a variety of concerts, leadership meetings for business, as well as some fantastic sporting events.

Imagine the economic impact for dying businesses in the area.

Nobody likes change but this is a positive one and will move the University to a whole new level of competitiveness in a plethora of activities.

Please support getting this venue complete! It is a win win for all.

Bobbi Strom

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From: [Paul Delaney](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#)
Subject: 2260 Summit, St. Thomas Multipurpose Arena Appeals
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 10:10:26 PM

To the City Council:

I am contacting you in reference to **University of St. Thomas 2260 Summit Avenue Appeal File #: 24-039-050 Site Plan File #: 23-079-985**. I fully support St Thomas' plans to build this new arena. This facility will be built in the same manner as any other recent construction on campus. In other words, this facility will bring innovation, environmental care, and the highest quality to the city. Keeping this arena on campus will reduce the need for automobiles as students will be able to walk to games and events.

The east metro is due for a modern facility to share with other amateur youth hockey organizations. Aldrich Arena was built in 1962 and still employs outdated, antiquated cooling systems. Aldrich is still used by amateur leagues. Having an arena on the St Thomas would bring these games back to St Paul, bring new opportunities for local businesses and utilizing new efficient technology to service the facility.

At most, 5,000 fans would attend a given event. On any given Saturday in the fall, the Tommies draw a larger crowd for its home football games. These fall Saturdays provide a positive experience for the area. These events, most often scheduled for weekends, would provide another opportunity for positive energy in the area.

I am a proud Alum of St Thomas, graduating in 1993. St Thomas was great then and has only improved since then. I am excited to enjoy the Lee and Penny Anderson Arena when it opens. And I look forward to cheering on the Tommies with other members of our community.

Roll Toms,

Paul Delaney

312 Spring St, #409

St Paul, MN 55102

651 983-7444

From: [Josh Rodenbiker](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#)
Subject: St. Thomas Multipurpose Arena
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 9:59:24 PM

Hello,

I'm writing in regard to the case number: University of St. Thomas 2260 Summit Avenue Appeal File #: 24-039-050 Site Plan File #: 23-079-985. I'm a current resident of Saint Paul and my home address is 1554 Midway Pkwy APT 381, Saint Paul, MN 55108. I would like to express my enthusiastic support of the new arena. Abiding by their conditional use permits and working closely with the City of Saint Paul, St. Thomas is building a state-of-the-art multipurpose arena that will serve its campus and the greater community in myriad ways. It will drive even more economic activity to our city on top of the already \$498.8 million the university already brings to Saint Paul annually. St. Thomas is building this arena with the neighborhood in mind, investing in infrastructure improvements that will benefit the neighborhood and has engaged with the community in 17 public meetings on the arena. The university is also showing that it values sustainability by building an arena that is LEED certified and adding a green quad to a space on campus that used to be occupied by three very inefficient buildings. This new arena will be a fan favorite in the community and a place that drives positive economic impact while also providing unforgettable memories for families to enjoy together. All in all, I'm a firm believer that this multipurpose arena will serve Saint Paul in countless ways for years to come!

Sincerely,
Josh Rodenbiker

From: [Mark Horton](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul](#); [Contact-Council](#); [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Subject: St. Thomas Multi purpose Arena Appeal No. APC 24-2
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 8:51:52 PM

June 10, 2024

To: St. Paul City Council

I'm writing to express my unwavering support for the University of St. Thomas multi-purpose arena.

Women's college athletics is being reduced by universities across the county, but UST is promoting women's college athletics by building a new multi-purpose arena for women's hockey and basketball. The City of St. Paul should be a proud supporter of UST athletics for investing in a such a nice arena for women to play sports in.

The silent majority want is arena exactly where its being built. Dan Kennedy "on behalf of" ARD has dragged out this entire process. St. Thomas has gotten permits and approvals. The site plan has been approved. UST has followed all the procedures and processes. Don't be distracted by the ARD circus coming to the June 12th City Council Meeting.

Thanks,

Mark Horton
612-209-6607

From: [Mark Horton](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul](#); [Contact-Council](#); [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Subject: St. Thomas Multi purpose Arena Appeal No. APC 24-2
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June 10, 2024

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Thanks,

Mark Horton
612-209-6607

From: [Tom Clasen](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#)
Subject: University of St. Thomas 2260 Summit Avenue Appeal File #: 24-039-050 Site Plan File #: 23-079-985
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 7:42:12 PM

Dear City Council Members,

I'm writing to express my support for the development of the new multi-use arena on the University of St. Thomas campus. The decision that both the zoning committee and the full planning commission made to deny the appeal from a group of St. Thomas neighbors was the right decision, and I encourage the city council to do the same.

If St. Paul has any hope of being a vibrant, thriving city into the future, its residents and its leaders need to embrace change. I want to be part of a St. Paul that attracts residents and visitors alike and part of a city where people want to spend time (and money). Projects like the St. Thomas arena, which will be an important resource for the university but also an amenity for the entire community, help accomplish this.

Of course, I also want to be part of a beautiful city.

St. Thomas is one of the most beautiful campuses in the country, and it has a long history of thoughtful, intentional development aimed at both the student experience and the neighborhood experience. The arena will complement other recent additions to campus, including the Iversen Center for Faith and the Schoenecker Center. As someone who takes advantage of the campus himself – whether it's walking along the pollinator paths or attending a lecture or concert – I routinely see neighbors making use of St. Thomas' amenities, and I know St Thomas welcomes this. It is a university both in the city and of the city.

St. Thomas neighbors are lucky to live near St. Thomas – an institution that has been an anchor to the St. Paul's western border for nearly 140 years and an institution that has been a very good neighbor. St. Thomas has followed all processes to build the arena on its campus and is not requesting any variances or exceptions. Thank you, council members, for your endorsement to keep this project moving forward.

Sincerely,

Tom Clasen

300 Wall Street, #706

St. Paul, MN 55101

tom.clasen@gmail.com

612-819-9498

From: [Ben Green](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#)
Subject: University of St. Thomas 2260 Summit Avenue Appeal File #: 24-039-050 Site Plan File # 23-079-985
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 6:09:39 PM

Dear Committee Members:

This email is written in support of the Anderson Arena project on the south campus of St. Thomas. I first moved to St. Paul from Mankato in 1992 to attend the University of St. Thomas as an undergrad. St. Paul has been my home ever since and St. Thomas is a fundamental part of why St. Paul is still my home. My home address is 543 Smith Avenue South, at the top of the High Bridge.

St. Thomas, like all of the other excellent colleges and universities that call St. Paul home, enhances the lives of City residents and many others from outside of St. Paul. The advantages include the economic benefits of employing numerous residents, and the opportunities many local businesses enjoy serving the workers of all of those institutions, including St. Thomas. Such opportunities will only grow through the addition of the Anderson Arena.

The new arena at St. Thomas will increase support of the local economy, and provide St. Thomas with a facility necessary to succeed in Division 1 hockey and basketball. The addition of a Division 1 facility also opens the door to new local, state, and national events that can be hosted at St. Thomas, further supporting the local economy. The addition of the Anderson Arena will enhance St. Thomas and St. Paul by ensuring St. Thomas will not need to purchase land off campus thereby removing part of the City's tax base. When we all do better, we all are better.

Please support the construction of the Anderson Arena on the campus of St. Thomas.

Regards,

Ben Green

From: [Brent Boerger](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Lee & Penny Arena
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 11:59:32 AM

Dear City Council of St Paul, Community, and Mr Kenedy.

The Lee and Penny Anderson rink is really about opportunity.

The opportunity of Lee and Penny decided to sacrifice and give such a selfless gift to a University of St Thomas, Community, and the City of St Paul. This is an opportunity that will provide so many UST students with pride to play in an incredible state-of-the-art facility. An opportunity for UST students to graduate in, An opportunity for the City of St. Paul to boast this gorgeous state of the art arena in the state. An opportunity to provide highly skilled construction jobs. An opportunity for local HS students to hold an adequate capacity-sized section final. It is an opportunity for youth to go to an event and dream about it when it's their turn. It is an opportunity for visitors from diverse backgrounds and geographical areas to have a reason to visit

and explore what St. Paul has to offer. An opportunity for local business to be willing to invest in the City of St. Paul, benefit from the risk, offer more employment opportunities for the local community An opportunity for City Council to say yes in the future of St. Paul.

Respectfully,

Brent Boerger

From: [Michael D. O'Neill](#)
To: [#CI-StPaul_Council](#)
Subject: UST Multipurpose Arena
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 2:00:35 PM

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

Dear Saint Paul City Council,

I am writing to you today in support of your denial of the appeal of Daniel L. M. Kennedy on behalf of Advocates for Responsible Development. I am in favor of the Saint Paul City Council approving the Planning Commission decision denying the appeal of a zoning administrator decision to approve a site plan for a new multipurpose arena on the University of St Thomas (UST) campus at 2260 Summit Avenue.

Besides complying with the requirements of the Planning Commission, the multipurpose arena will be a great benefit for the students at the UST, the vast majority of the neighbors who want to have a thriving city and the majority of the citizens of Saint Paul.

UST is a great asset to the City of Saint Paul. With the new multipurpose arena, many Saint Paul's students will be able to walk to events at the multipurpose arena, as opposed to driving out to Mendota Heights, to watch UST play its hockey games. People who were not exposed to hockey or other events in the past will now be able to walk over to such events. This will add to the sense of community at UST and in Saint Paul.

Also, building a multipurpose arena is very helpful to the goal of UST to successfully compete at the D1 level in hockey and basketball. By obtaining this very generous donation by the Andersons and others, UST is sending a signal that it will be competitive long term in D1 athletics. UST could have built the multipurpose arena in many nearby cities which would have been very happy to have this type of investment in its city. UST chose to invest in Saint Paul. Now, with this investment and positive energy for UST and Saint Paul, UST will attract some of the best athletes who may not have otherwise thought to attend UST. This will cause UST to be a very relevant university in D1 athletics, which will add to the exposure of UST and Saint Paul. This competitive attitude should also energize students, faculty, and alumni for UST, and at the same time for the City of Saint Paul.

I grew up on Summit Ave and felt very fortunate to have two college campuses (Macalester and UST) close by. The students, faculty, and visitors greatly add to the population in the area. Most home owners will find their homes are in a desirable area which helps to maintain the property values, Retail businesses from Highland area to University Ave. will view the area as attractive for investment.

I have worked downtown since 1987. I have experienced first-hand what can happen to negatively affect property and its values when there is little investment by business and the area is not considered attractive for persons for retail or business purposes. Hopefully, the downtown area is on the rebound. But there is no need for the area surrounding UST to go through a similar downturn. Encouraging investment by UST in its campus and Saint Paul and approving the Planning Commission decision is good for Saint Paul.

Michael D. O'Neill
Martin & Squires, P.A.
1st National Bank Building,
332 Minnesota Street, Suite W2750
St. Paul, MN 55101
Direct: 651-767-3751
Facsimile: 651-228-9161
mdoneill@martinsquires.com