



June 13, 2024

Saint Paul Planning Commission
c/o Luis Pereira, Planning Director
1400 City Hall Annex | 25 Fourth Street West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

RE: Position Letter Regarding Cannabis Cultivation and Processing in St. Anthony Park

Dear Commissioners & Director Pereira:

The St. Anthony Park Community Council (SAPCC) wishes to convey our position on the matter of Cannabis Cultivation and Processing within our community, particularly in light of the proposed City of St. Paul ordinance.

As representatives of the St. Anthony Park neighborhood, we are deeply committed to preserving the health, safety, and quality of life of our residents. With this in mind, we have carefully considered the potential impacts of cannabis cultivation and processing activities on our community.

We are particularly concerned about the documented issues related to odor control stemming from cannabis cultivation and processing, as exemplified by the 'Skunky odor' communities have experienced in Santa Barbara County (CA) and the City of Denver (CO).

Given our community's residential areas are in close proximity to areas that may be "zoned" for cannabis cultivation and processing, we are especially sensitive to any potential disturbances that could affect the well-being and health of our residents.

Furthermore, we have noted with concern the lack of clear standards for measuring air quality and requiring effective odor control technologies and odor abatement plans in the proposed City of St. Paul ordinance. We believe that any regulatory framework must include objective and enforceable standards to mitigate the potential negative impacts on our community.

In light of these concerns, the St. Anthony Park Community Council (SAPCC) hereby adopts the following position:

- We oppose any proposed cannabis cultivation and processing activities that could adversely affect the health, safety, and quality of life of St. Anthony Park residents.
- We call for the adoption of comprehensive regulations by the City of St. Paul that include clear standards for measuring air quality and implementing effective odor control technologies and abatement plans at cannabis cultivation and processing facilities.
- We disagree with the characterization of these facilities under Sec. 65.780 as producing “minimal off-site impacts,” unless they install excellent, often expensive, odor control. Because these compounds are detectable at very low concentrations in the air, they will negatively impact residents, visitors, and people who work in the area, even at considerable distances from the operation.
- With respect to the Saint Paul Climate Action Plan, we ask the city to consider ways to limit the high energy requirement, water, fertilizer, and pesticide use, and waste production of indoor cannabis growing operations. In addition, a public education program should be undertaken regarding the health and safety impacts of second-hand cannabis smoke.
- We urge all relevant stakeholders to prioritize the health, well-being, and livability of not only St. Anthony Park and its residents in any decisions regarding cannabis-related activities but all of the City of St. Paul.
- We respectfully request that our position be taken into consideration in any discussions or decision-making processes related to cannabis cultivation and processing in our community and actions taken to ensure they are implemented.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue to the St. Anthony Park community.

Sincerely,



Executive Director
(612) 770-2872
director@sapcc.org

on behalf of the
Directors of the
St. Anthony Park Community Council