



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

DAI THAO
Councilmember

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
Attn: MayKao Hang
451 Lexington Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55103

June 26, 2019

Dear Ms. Hang,

I am writing to express my full support of the Summit-University Planning Council's position regarding the purchase agreement that the Wilder Foundation has signed with Alatus, LLC.

The Wilder Foundation has a respected history of doing good work and your mission "to promote the social welfare of persons resident or located in the greater Saint Paul metropolitan area by all appropriate means" is vitally important to our community. Many in this community are suffering due to the housing crisis and its devastating impacts. The residents near this site will be impacted by any housing built there. I strongly urge you to make sure that is a positive impact and not one that further displaces families.

The families in the Frogtown and Summit-University Planning Districts are already cost-burdened by housing costs. More than half of the households in these districts are barely making \$50,000/year. By adding more market-rate housing without any affordable housing units will further add to the housing crisis we are in. I ask you to consider the Summit University Planning Council's Neighborhood Development Committee and Executive Committee's request that affordability requirements are added to any purchase of that site. This will be a partnership that will be so critical to the success of St. Paul because government cannot solve the housing crisis alone.

Thank you for your consideration of the needs and requests of the community. Please contact me at ward1@ci.stpaul.mn.us or 651-266-8610 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dai Thao
St. Paul City Councilmember, Ward 1