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June 16, 2015

To: Alcohol License Review Committee
Re: Buraka LLC 1210 Williamson St.

Dear Committee Members:

The Marquette Neighborhood has hosted two discussions with neighbors and Markos Regassa of Buraka LLC to discuss his proposal and the effects on the neighborhood.

The MNA Board has not had time to weigh in fully as it next meets on Thursday June 18th. However, at both the Preservation and Development meeting on 6/9/15 and the neighborhood meeting on 6/16/15 there was overwhelming support by neighbors for the following aspects of the proposal: a punctual 10pm close on the non-smoking back patio seating area, and an 11pm close time for the non-smoking front patio. There was a lack of opposition to a 2am close for the building itself, particularly on Friday and Saturday nights.

There was considerable support for a full beer/wine/hard liquor license for Buraka LLC as long as Mr. Regassa's business retains a 70/30 food to alcohol sales ratio.

The main point of contention of the proposal to build a five foot tall deck on the back of the building which would have had seating. Noise and privacy concerns from immediate neighbors convinced Mr. Regassa to concede construction of a deck for now and renew the discussion after he established a relationship with adjacent neighbors.

We understand this ALRC meeting to be the last chance for Mr. Regassa to renew the existing alcohol license for 1210 Williamson St. without investing an extra \$10,000. It has been widely expressed that Buraka's unique authentic cuisine would be a great addition to the neighborhood and further financial burden may jeopardize his success as a neighbor.

Jesse Pycha-Holst
Preservation and Development Chair
MNA Board Member