

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric W. Thiede [<mailto:thiedeeric@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 11:21 AM

To: Parks, Timothy; Martin, Al; Ellingson, Susan; Amy Moran

Subject: Ideal Redevelopment

To All Whom It May Concern:

I have been a resident and property owner in the 1000 block of Drake St. since 1976, my wife since 1994. Shortly after I arrived here the zoning was changed to a more restrictive R3 at the request of residents to prevent projects such as the Ideal from being built. Apparently zoning is a very fluid thing, subject to change as soon as sufficiently big money requests it.

As realists, we can see that this project will go forward in some form, but if it must, it should be smaller than five stories, which is very out of character for this neighborhood. Four stories on Park St. and three for the westward extension into the neighborhood is still too tall in our opinion, but it would at least be tolerable.

We also question the need for so many more new apartments in this area. So much overbuilding has occurred already that the older units in this area are getting harder to rent. This could ultimately lead to a degradation rather than an enhancement of this neighborhood.

Putting more than 100 people into a space now occupied by perhaps a dozen is going to generate more traffic, noise, and congestion, regardless of the rosy picture to the contrary painted by the Ideal's proponents. We who live here will have to deal with that every day.

The people who live on Emerald St. across the alley from this development would be especially hard hit. Their once private back yards would be subjected to the view of residents of many apartments, and bathed in stray light at night. To the north, instead of trees and the sky they would see a wall full of people towering over them. If we were in their position we would be very, very apprehensive. The massive scale of the thing would be offensive enough even from our location. If this is going to be inflicted upon those of us who actually live here, please reduce its scale to something easier for us to live with.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric W. Thiede  
Angela C. Spindler

Sent from my iPod