

Members of the ALRC:

I am writing in regards to an alcohol license application that is scheduled to appear before the Committee on Wednesday 8/20/14.

The Vilas Neighborhood Association held a meeting on Monday August 18th to discuss an alcohol license policy for the Vilas neighborhood including the business establishments along the 1500 to 2100 blocks of Monroe Street. There is no other location in the City where there are over 500 alcohol seats in two blocks (1800 & 1900) on only one side of the street directly adjacent to single family homes with small children. This application would add another 99 seats (or 20% increase). We have reached a saturation point that is severely impacting the health and safety of our neighborhood and our quality of life. In anticipation of a more formalized policy which we plan to present to the ALRC we passed the following resolution:

"The Board states their strong opposition to the Paint Bar liquor license for 1) its potential for creating more negative impact on an area already densely populated with establishments serving alcohol and 2) the fact that the prescribed process as defined by the City, specifically, the requirement that "an information session be held one week prior to the ALRC meeting" has not been met."

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the VNA Board members.

Though our Alder has indicated that he is requesting a referral of the application based on the lack of any attempt to coordinate an information meeting with the neighborhood we felt it was important that the Committee understand the views of the neighborhood association in this matter.

Sincerely,
David Gevers
Vilas Neighborhood Association, President