

RAMSEY HILL ASSOCIATION



January 21, 2025

Councilmember Rebecca Noecker
Saint Paul City Council
15 W Kellogg Blvd, Suite 310
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Councilmember Noecker,

The Ramsey Hills Association (RHA) is writing in support of this ordinance amendment to Title IV of the Administrative Code to include Chapter 92, titled Tree Preservation for City Sponsored Projects. RHA is a 50-year old non-profit, neighborhood association representing neighbors across the Ramsey Hill and Cathedral Hill community. Our mission since the 1970's has been to preserve the historic nature of our neighborhood and landscape. One pillar in support of this mission has consistently been support for our parks and gardens, which provide significant green space and canopy coverage across Ramsey Hill.

The Ramsey Hill Association directly supports six parks: including Summit Lookout, Nathan Hale, Cochran, Boyd, McQuillan, and Holly Tot Lot. RHA provides both financial support and maintenance through paid and volunteering services throughout the year. These parks and gardens are used by neighbors, residents of Saint Paul, and out-of-town visitors alike. Protection of the tree canopy within and surrounding our neighborhood from projects that could harm our landscape and quality of life is a core tenant of our community and neighborhood association.

In addition to our Parks and Gardens, the Ramsey Hill neighborhood is home to a significant footprint of Saint Paul's historic rights-of-way, including Summit Avenue from Dale Street to the Cathedral. The recent Summit Avenue Bike Trail still raises many concerns for our community relative to the potential impact to our tree canopy. Our expectation with this revised ordinance is that it would influence and prevent future projects that would impose similar impact to our historic infrastructure and green landscape.

RHA appreciates CM Noecker's work to prioritize greenspace across Saint Paul's many neighborhoods and we're pleased to support any effort that works to protect that greenspace.

Sincerely,

Jacob Walls
President, RHA

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