

HOURS OF OPERATION PROPOSED: INSIDE: Monday–Friday 3:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.
Saturday and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

OUTSIDE: Same as indoor hours

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL SERVICE AVAILABILITY CHARGES: None

HISTORY OF LOCATION

The premises have been previously licensed as on sale liquor establishments. The most recent licensee was Azia Restaurant which was under different ownership.

APPLICANT

The applicant is Minneapolis Grill, LLC, a Minnesota corporation formed on March 25, 2013, under Chapter 322B (File Number 662906300028). The applicant has provided documentation showing adequate, legal, and traceable funding for this venture. They have the required restriction on the transfer of shares and have the following shareholders and officers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Shares</u>
Michael J. Tupa	Chief Manager	50%
Daniel L. Gelb	Member	50%

MANAGER

To be determined

POLICE REVIEW

Police Licensing and this Inspector have reviewed the expenses and source of funds reported in this application. The applicant has provided documentation showing adequate legal and traceable funding for this venture and has passed the criminal background check. The Fifth Precinct of the Minneapolis Police Department has discussed security issues with the applicant.

PREMISES

The premises will operate with 4,800 square feet on the first floor. It will seat a total of 142 persons at tables and chairs and 18 persons in the bar area. The bar area will have a glass enclosed display case on the east end of the interior providing patrons to view fresh catches and other food products. This area will not offer any patron seating. Upon entering the establishment at the main entrance the host desk and main dining room are encountered. Fully accessible restrooms are located at the rear of the premises. The sidewalk café has been approved for 13 two-top tables which will have 26 seats for patrons which will be located on the Nicollet Avenue side of the business and the 26th Street West side of the business.

BUSINESS/PLAN/OPERATIONS

Buddha Lounge will be a fine dining restaurant and will offer a variety of Asian fusion seafood specialty dishes, Thai, Chinese, Vietnamese, Japanese and other dishes. The business hours will be 3:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday through Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to

2:00 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. They intend to have a Disc Jockey Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. The business is targeting a mature professional atmosphere for the 30 and above age group. Buddha Lounge must operate as a restaurant subject to the 60/40 ratio of food to alcohol sales. No more than 40% of sales may be from alcohol. Last call for alcohol service will be 15 to 30 minutes prior to closing. All staff will undergo alcohol server training conducted by Bob Pomplun, of Serving Alcohol, Inc. All new employees handling alcohol who have received acceptable alcohol compliance training within the last year will be trained by management staff using the materials given during on-site training. All patrons requesting alcoholic beverages will be checked for proper identification. There will be a reward/discipline policy for alcohol servers. Obviously intoxicated patrons will not be admitted. Service to obviously intoxicated guests is prohibited. Patrons will not be allowed to remove alcohol from the premises. Security needs during normal operating hours will be met by their on duty management staff. Management is trained in the basic principles of establishment security and has protocol for handling matters of intoxicated patrons, unruly or disorderly patrons, and emergency situations. Buddha Lounge will maintain a current "No Admittance" list. They indicate they will ensure that patrons are not over served. In the event that they determine that someone is over served they will make sure they have a safe ride home and will provide one free of charge if need be.

PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY

A public hearing is required for this application. 205 public hearing notices were mailed out to residents and property owners, and 29 multi-family residences were posted within 600 feet of the premises, and e-mailed to the Whittier Neighborhood Association. A public hearing will be held at Regulatory, Energy, and Environment Committee on July 22, 2013.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Licenses and Consumer Services Division make the following recommendation for the application for Buddha Lounge. The license application for a Class "B" On sale Liquor with Sunday Sales license is recommended for approval.