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Andrew Liska, City Planner
250 South 4th Street, Room 300
Minneapolis MN 55415

April 6, 2014

Re: Variance Request for 4412 43rd Ave S

Dear Sir:

I am writing in support of the request for a variance made by the builder, Michael Rongitsch, for the above-reverenced address. I hope to counter any objections you may receive from other neighbors, in the interest of encouraging the improvement of housing stock in my neighborhood.

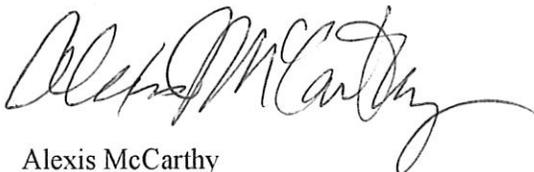
In my opinion the variance from the normal front-yard setback is minimal, and the proposed 21 foot setback is perfectly adequate. Many lots and homes in this area are extremely small, and to fit a home that meets today's needs on a tiny lot requires some creativity.

To those who fear that the variance would alter the quaint and historic character of the neighborhood, I would point out that virtually every home in the area has been altered and updated from its original design. A walk down this block will reveal that there has been no consistent standard upheld for the size, design or footprint of homes. Many of the homes were cheaply made in the early part of the last century, and are long overdue for renovation.

The 4400 block of 43rd Avenue South has a number of other properties (4444, 4449, 4452, 4453, 4456) that would be good candidates for renewal because of extreme disrepair. We live alongside properties with chronic, multiple housing violations not remedied by any action on the part of the City of Minneapolis. I for one am open to ideas and changes that would upgrade these properties, and that is the message I would give to any prospective developer.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Alexis McCarthy