

November 9, 2015

The Land Use Committee of the St. Anthony Park Community Council recognizes and appreciates the efforts Ecumen has made to listen and respond to the neighborhood's concerns about the proposed development of property currently owned by Luther Seminary.

This development would be the largest our neighborhood has experienced in decades. It proposes a senior cooperative located at Como Avenue and Luther Place as well as affordable to market-rate apartments and a "living with services" building at Como Avenue and Eustis Street. Neighbors have expressed great interest and a desire for input on how this development should proceed.

Ecumen has demonstrated a spirit of cooperation. They have made efforts to include residents in the planning process by means of community meetings as well as the promise of an advisory committee, with monthly reporting to the community through the Community Council as this process moves forward. For the best overall result, we hope Ecumen and the Seminary will give due consideration to the ideas and concerns from members of the community. Ecumen has responded positively to the Land Use Committee's recently issued development guidelines (<http://www.sapcc.org/land-use-committee>).

We welcome Ecumen's continued cooperation. Their representatives will meet monthly with our committee to keep us and the community up-to-date on plans and progress. Our regular meetings are on first Thursdays at 7 p.m. (publicized on our website and the SAPListserv). All Land Use Committee meetings are open to the public. The new location for the meetings is in the Jennings Community Learning Center, 2455 University Avenue W. There is parking behind the building, with access to the building from the parking lot.

Residents may send ideas and comments about the Ecumen/Luther Seminary project in writing to the Community Council or by email to info@sapcc.org.

Land Use Committee

The St. Anthony Park Community Council is the citizen participation council recognized by the City of St. Paul for the St. Anthony Park community. The primary objectives of the Community Council are to unite, in common cause, residents, business persons, employees and organizations in St. Anthony Park in a continuing effort to promote harmonious environmental conditions and favorable community relationships.