Received 1/17/12 CC hearing

January 16, 2012

**Dear Albany City Council:** 

We are citizens in Albany. We are highly concerned about the negative impact the beer pub will have on the neighborhood around 745 San Pablo. We are writing to appeal the decision made by the City Council on January 10, 2012, which granted the beer pub a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to open, until 10:00 p.m. on Sunday-Thursday, and 12:00 a.m. on Friday-Saturday. We are writing to ask the City of Albany to more strongly address the current issues coming from Club Mallard before considering putting in another drinking establishment that is open beyond 10:00 p.m. any night of the week. Our concerns include the following:

We think that the beer pub should be opened no later than the hours recommended by the Albany City Police. The pub should close at 10:00 p.m. every night.

Midnight is too late for Friday and Saturday nights. Cnildren live in our complex and they should not be awakened by noisy, drunken patrons stumbling to their cars. It is not something children should be exposed to and it may be frightening to them and disturbing to their sleep. Moreover, the other residents should not have to be awakened by noisy, drunken patrons stumbling to their cars on weekends, either. And patrons of the beer pub will likely park in front of the complex at 727 San Pablo because the beer pub did not provide parking for them. The beer pub is depending on parking publicly available. Because our complex is so close in proximity to the beer pub, it is very likely patrons will park in front of our complex and they will come back to their cars, in front of our complex, when the beer pub closes.

Most children go to bed around 8:00 or 9:00 p.m., far before 12:00 a.m. on weekends. The 12:00 a.m. hours are too late for housing and the condo complex around 745 San Pablo Avenue.

Also, we are seriously concerned about where patrons of the beer pub will park. From speaking to neighbors on Adams Street, we know there are problems with customers from Club Mallard parking their cars on residential streets behind Club Mallard. We are also aware, from speaking to neighbors on Adams Street, that there are problems with people doing drugs in their cars and having sex in their cars. There have also been problems with public urination. This is not what parents want their children

exposed to. As said before, many families in our complex have children. This is not why they moved to Albany. Similarly, it is not something residents want to expose themselves or guests to.

Residents in an around the beer pub at 745 San Pablo are concerned about similar problems we know that others have already experienced. We want assurances that Albany City will prevent drug usage and sexual activity from occurring in parked cars in our neighborhood.

The public parking is already strained in this area. The beer pub must provide its own parking rather than being given an automatic variance. Albany's parking ordinance requires just nine spots. The beer pub should be required to contact and lease a nearby private lot at night and show that it can provide some off-street parking to relieve the parking tensions already existing in the area. The Mechanics Bank has shown some openness to this previously, and they, or businesses with other lots in the area, should be contacted by the beer pub owner to determine availability of parking for beer pub patrons.

We are also concerned about noise and smoke from patrons standing out on the sidewalk talking and smoking. In particular, residents at the condominium complex at 727 San Pablo are concerned about people standing on the sidewalk in front of the condominium complex to talk and smoke while drinking. Many residents of the complex have children who get up early for school. Residents also have to get up early to go to work.

We are also concerned about security. Many of the residents in the condominium complex at 727 San Pablo bought their condos so their children could go to Albany schools. Our condo is made up of many families. Will there be more police control with the new beer pub opening up? Will the business pay a special fee to pay for the extra police patrol? Do the local police have their hands full monitoring lvy Room, Hotsy Totsy Club, Club Mallard, and the Bowling Alley?

Will the beer pub pay for someone to clean sidewalks and areas nearby, including those in front of the dentist's office and condos at 727 San Pablo? In the city report, the beer pub said they hire someone twice a week. We do not believe that is sufficient cleaning for an establishment that is opened every night. Cleaning should be handled daily.

Also, the city report does not specify what they will clean. Will they clean trash from the pub, vomit from a patron who drinks too much, cigarette butts from patrons who stand outside smoking, urine

from patrons who urinate outside, etc.? Are those in cars using needles to take drugs and will those needles end up on the street along the block where the beer pub is located?

What is the beer pub's plan for preventing patrons from hanging out and smoking and being loud in front of the condo complex at 727 San Pablo? We are right next door. People do not want to leave the building if they will have to wade through clouds of smoke or drunk people to go somewhere. If they come home late, they will have to walk through clouds of smoke and drunk people.

Thank you for hearing our concerns. Please provide stronger conditions for the CUP granted to the beer pub. Please provide conditions for the beer pub owner to follow which address our concerns discussed above.

Sincerely:

NEIGHBORS TO THE PROPOSED BEER PUB AT 745 SAN PABLO

We want the City Council to re-open this Permit so that common-sense conditions can be added, such as the Albany Police Dept.'s recommended maximum operating hours of 10PM daily. Other concerns regarding no provided off-street parking, litter, and problems with drunk customers MUST also be addressed.

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Under the right circumstances, and with the right conditions, we might

support and become customers of this Beer Pub.			
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Justin Gueraun	Justin Guevara	804 madison St.
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