



**DOWNTOWN
MINNEAPOLIS
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

**40 S. 7th Street, STE 212 PMB 172
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Phone: (612) 659-1279
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November 20, 2017

Ms. Mei-Ling Smith, City Planner
City of Minneapolis CPED
250 S. 4th Street, Room 300
Minneapolis, MN 55115

RE: 317 2nd Avenue South

Dear Mei Ling:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Downtown Minneapolis Neighborhood Association regarding Big City Hospital's proposed hotel conversion project at 317 S. 2nd Avenue. Bethany Hardy from Ramaker & Associates and the developer Jay Bhakta from JR Hospitality presented the project to the DMNA Land Use Committee on November 8.

Hardy presented the site plan for the project; including both interior and exterior drawings. She stated that the converted building will house two Hilton brand hotels; Tru and Home 2. She noted that the conversion project also includes a small addition at the rear of the building in the alley. She indicated that this will serve as the main access to the hotels.

After some questions and discussion, the committee recommended approval of the site plan for 317 S. 2nd Avenue. The committee; however, strongly encouraged the developer to work with the City to make public realm improvements to the front of the building that enhance the pedestrian experience.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at christie@thedmna.org or by phone at 320-583-4573.

Sincerely,

Christie Rock Hantge
DMNA Neighborhood Coordinator

CC: Council Member Jacob Frey
Joe Tamburino, DMNA Board Chair
Bethany Hardy, Ramaker & Associates