

To: **Mayor and City Council**  
 Through: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**  
 From: **Brian Sturgeon, Chief of Police**  
 Date: **May 22, 2020**

## **On-Sale Liquor License Limit**

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### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

West St Paul City Code 112.03 (H)(3)(h) states , “Not more than one license shall be directly or indirectly issued with the city to any one person.”

Staff has been contacted by an on-sale liquor license establishment that would like to sell their business to another individual who already holds a West St Paul liquor license. The potential purchaser would operate both establishments within the City of West St Paul if the sale is conducted. Currently this is not allowed.

The current ordinance could also potentially hinder some companies from expanding into our community as well. The operations of a restaurant are expensive and consolidation of chain restaurants is very common. In 2018 alone, Business Insider reported more than 700 food and beverage industry mergers and acquisitions took place. A company such as Darden Restaurants owns several different chains of restaurants and the company could only obtain one liquor license from the City.

At the direction of Council, staff could have in place at a Council meeting in July, revisions to the current ordinance that would either increase or eliminate the cap on liquor licenses one person may hold depending on direction given.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

		<b>Amount</b>
<b>Fund:</b>		<b>None</b>
<b>Department:</b>		
<b>Account:</b>		

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Discuss the need and/or desire to modify the current ordinance and direct staff on a direction to take on the current ordinance.