

Hamline Midway Coalition and UPDC Executive Committee request to delay vote
on interim use permit for 400 Snelling Avenue (Stadium Parking)

I am writing on behalf of the Hamline Midway Development Committee and the Union Park District Council Executive Committee regarding the space at 400 Snelling Ave proposed to be used for parking lots for up to five years. While we appreciate the need for additional parking on the roughly 20 soccer event days, this space resides in a neighborhood of people who interact with the location 365 days per year. We believe it is possible to create a dual use for this space that can meet the needs of the team and the community.

We ask you to delay approval of this permit to allow time to develop multiple uses for this space.

When representatives from the Union Park District Council and Hamline Midway Coalition met with Bill McGuire in March 2018 we proposed low-cost ways to make the space aesthetically pleasing and feasible for people to gather and connect with neighbors when not being used by the team. He rejected the ideas with no consideration because he said the space would be developed in a short time and that whatever was developed would need to be torn down almost immediately. We also met with him again in July and he indicated that the space would be used only for parking. He did not mention this public hearing and that meeting.

The team's request for permission to use the space for parking for 5-years indicates that imminent development is less likely than first anticipated, and that the suggestions made by the community representatives should receive serious consideration. Also, because these parking lots will be paid lots on game day we believe this revenue will offset the modest expenses incurred in creating dual use.

With that in mind we respectfully request that you delay approval of this interim permit and direct the team to work with Mortenson and representatives from the community district councils (and/or members of the newly created Community Benefit Fund task force) to create a revised plan reflective of a multi-use design for this area. Images of suggested uses are attached.

We believe it is reasonable to delay this decision because the team will not need parking until spring 2019, which leaves adequate time to create and implement a shared vision for the space.

Thank you for your consideration.

Megan Conley, Ward 4 resident, on behalf of:

Union Park District Council, Executive Committee

Hamline Midway Coalition and MichaelJon Olson, Executive Director

Community Benefits Fund representatives from Ward 4



Potential Pedestrian Plaza Layout





