



February 18, 2026

Saint Paul City Council
15 West Kellogg Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55102

RE: Creation of a TIF District and use of GO Bonds for St. Joseph's Campus

Dear Council President Noecker and Councilmembers,

For the last several years, there has been an emphasis by city leadership to encourage individuals, families, groups, and businesses to choose to come to downtown St. Paul to live, work, and play. At the Church of the Assumption, we are glad to welcome an estimated 350,000 individuals who choose to come downtown and visit our parish. This has a positive impact not only for Assumption, but also on local businesses, organizations, and community partners who serve others in need.

Since 1856, Assumption has been here to gather and serve people from all walks of life. We are investing millions into our own campus, and we welcome greater investment by others to help our downtown neighborhood be healthy and vibrant for everyone. For years, however, this neighborhood has struggled with the weight of disinvestment—vacant buildings, limited economic activity, and fewer places that foster connection, vitality, and hope. The proposed work and potential renewal of the former St. Joseph's Hospital site represent the kind of thoughtful investment that our parishioners and neighbors have long awaited.

Today, I write to express support for your consideration of the creation of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District and the use of General Obligation (GO) Bonds to advance the redevelopment of a portion of the former St. Joseph's Hospital campus in downtown Saint Paul, directly adjacent to our parish.

We appreciate the commitment shown by the Saint Paul Port Authority and Fairview to create the conditions for growth, opportunity, and greater pride in downtown Saint Paul. Their work reflects a forward-looking investment aligned with the values of stewardship, renewal, and care for the common good. For these reasons and more, I am happy to support the establishment of a TIF District and the use of GO Bonds to help make this project possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rev. Paul Treacy, Pastor

Saint Paul City Council
15 West Kellogg Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55102

RE: Creation of a TIF District and use of GO Bonds for St. Joseph's Campus

Dear Council President Noecker and Councilmembers,

On behalf of the Fitzgerald Neighborhood Alliance, we are writing to express our support for the creation of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District and the use of General Obligation (GO) Bonds to support the redevelopment of a portion of the former St. Joseph's Hospital campus in downtown Saint Paul.

For too long, this part of downtown has felt the impact of little-to-no investment—empty buildings, a lack of economic activity, and fewer reasons for residents to feel safe, connected, and hopeful about what's ahead. The proposed work and potential redevelopment at the former St. Joseph's Hospital site offers exactly the kind of positive momentum and community-centered investment our neighborhood has been waiting for.

When the Fitzgerald Neighborhood Alliance met in November, 2025 we conducted a brainstorming session to identify and align around our priorities. Two of the most significant ones were collaborating with Civic Leaders to make improvements in our area and to support the handling of vacant properties.

The plan put forward by the Saint Paul Port Authority, in partnership with Fairview, is a major step in the right direction. By demolishing unusable structures and cleaning up environmental issues on the site, this project sets the stage for new life and new opportunities. Residents and businesses alike deserve a downtown that feels alive again—one filled with people and positive daily activity. This project helps make that possible. We, as a neighborhood group, appreciate the City Council's attention on this issue and solution.

The work being done by the Port Authority and Fairview addresses long-standing neighborhood concerns and creates space for growth, opportunity, and renewed pride in downtown Saint Paul. It is the kind of thoughtful, forward-looking investment that our residents deserve, and it represents a meaningful step toward a more vibrant and resilient future for our entire community. For those reasons, we support the creation of a TIF district and use of GO bonds to make it happen.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Fitzgerald Neighborhood Alliance Planning Committee
Jenny Welch, Church of Scientology Director of Special Affairs
Mark Dougherty, Fitzgerald Condo Association Board Chair
Heidi Jernstedt, Gallery Tower Condo Board Member
Chris Weyandt, The Pointe Board Member at Large