

To the Honorable Mayor Christopher Coleman, the city Council, and to others it does concern. Below my email is another email you have already received from one of my Congregants. Please allow me to give my reasons for your consideration to stop or slow down your current plan for the Saints Stadium.

I have been a Resident of Saint Paul now since my return in 1991. Upon my first visit in 1998, I fell in love with Saint Paul, and the downtown. I was sent by my home church to start a church in Saint Paul. I have been a life long Vikings fan and it was hard growing a kid in California crying through 4 Super Bowl loss' with no shoulder to cry on. Well, I have plenty now. I love Saint Paul (the bible never mentions Minneapolis, only Saint Paul), and since we have been here (Calvary Chapel Saint Paul) we have started 8 other churches in Mn, SD,ND, and MI. 8 churches started form this one church. All these pastors came out of Calvary Chapel Saint Paul.

We started in my home in 1991 and met a other temporary location until November of 1994. From 1994 Calvary Chapel Saint Paul met at the Rossmor Building at 500 N. Robert St. We rented office and meeting space with 15 regular attending members and 1800 sq Ft of leased space. By the time we were forced to move in March of 2005, we had grown to almost 500 members, and were leasing 12,000 sq. Ft. of space. Calvary Chapel Saint Paul took up most of the 2nd floor and we took over the old pawn shop on Tenth St. of 4000 sq. ft. and built out a 350 seat Sanctuary and had two services and we where considering a 3rd Sunday morning service. We also met on Thursday nights for our midweek worship and bible study that was attend by 70% of the church and we went to two Thursday night services to accommodate all the Children's ministry that was happening during the week.

By the Summer of 2004 the Rossmor Building was sold and all our available parking we enjoyed for years was taken away to give to those who would be living in the newly renovated Rossmor Building. By March of 2005 just before Easter we had to move because there was no more space for us there for parking in the lot or on street parking. For ten years we participated in every city event you could think of. The Art Crawl was our favorite time of year and we turned our Sanctuary into the "Garden of Eden Art Works," and we displayed many local Christian artists. That is all gone. About 40% of the congregation lived outside of Downtown and found it difficult to attend once parking was removed. Those who could paid for parking, but many of our folks could not afford that. Joy's email below will explain more. As you will be able to discern from Joy's email, many of our Church members were forced to attend other churches because the parking, safety issues of walking many blocks at night, and during the winter with snow, and ice on sidewalks.

End result, we went from 500 members to 250 members in a year and then by 2008 we were at 100 members. Subsequent moves around to temporary locations and no church long term home has caused us dearly. Parking and location always being the issue. Since October of 2010, we have been back in Lower town Saint Paul in a non-conventional build again just like the Rossmor build. It's the Allen Building at 287 East Sixth St. That's directly in the new ball park site. Once again, we as a church will have to deal with parking being lost and the same issues that caused our move in 2005 out of Downtown Saint Paul will happen again. We are just now at 200 regular attendees for two Sunday Morning services and Thursday nights. We were praying

that we could build out one of the Floors in the Allen Building and grow back into leasing 12,000 square feet again.

One thing to realize is that the draw of Downtown, the farmers market, the artist community, and the Big City, but small town feel brings many people to Downtown. Again, read Joy's letter below. She is not alone in what she has experienced.

My request is to please reconsider the current plan and look at the other concepts being offered that have been ignored. The concept that I have seen for some time now adds 500 parking spaces to downtown instead of taking away the 200 plus that will be removed/eliminated.

Please view the YouTube clip of the concept and please pray and consider it, but most of all, take some of the \$54 million you have now and spend \$25,000 to hire an independent engineering company to look at this concept and please do not tear down the entire Gillette building but incorporate it and make this a year round business attraction and facilities. It will save many millions in tearing down costs, and bring in more money than just a single use stadium for a few months out of the year and the other 9 months lay dormant according to current plan scheduled to start June 1st, 2013. Council Member Dave Thune was at Wednesday March 27th community meeting and we are thankful for his support. He tried his best to explain the current plan.

I love the location with this new concept and I was planing on becoming a season ticket holder with many of my other church members. We love Saints Baseball.

It is my prayer that Calvary Chapel Saint Paul will remain in Downtown Saint Paul. This allow for everyone form the the neighborhoods of Saint Paul to attend Church and not be centrally located. Also, there are a great number of Citizens in Downtown that walk to church and their many Children as well. Calvary Chapel Saint Paul is a vital part of Downtown and services many Christians in the area.

I am sure you will hear from many of our voting church members who are watching this very closely and looking for leadership in our Mayor and City Council members. Calvary Chapel Saint Paul members is comprised from all Wards of Saint Paul. I am an Eastsider and have emailed my council member as well.

Finally. Thank you very much for your time and consideration. As the Apostle Saint Paul in Romans Chapter 13 instructs us to do, I do pray for my "elected" leaders every day. I pray for you to possess knowledge and wisdom to represent my desires as a citizen of Saint Paul. Knowledge is knowing that a tomato is actually a fruit and not a vegetable and wisdom in knowing not to put it in a fruit salad. May God bless you all and most of all, may your relationship with God make you sure that you will go to heaven.

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Thank you. The bible is true. Jesus is God!

In His grip!

Chik

www.ccsaintpaul.org

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZdnx5yWCMA>

<http://www.tcdailyplanet.net/news/2013/01/11/open-saint-paul-what-design-features-would-make-lowertown-ballpark-asset-neighborhood>

Letter from Saint Paul Resident:

I've been a fan of and attending games of the Saint Paul Saints for many more years than I've been a resident of St. Paul (a transplant from Minneapolis 17 years ago); the current ballpark is easy for me to park, and easily find seating in lower stands--no stair climbing! I have mobility issues that prevent me from walking very far, riding a bicycle or using public transportation options the city is now seemingly requiring--especially downtown.

My car is my major source of independence (the hills downtown make using my walker IMPOSSIBLE) and I, along with many others, NEED to drive, therefore NEED a place to park--on the streets, as my pension does not permit the luxury of parking ramp fees.

I attend church in Lowertown and shop the Farmer's Market afterwards, and the city's current ballpark plan will completely eradicate not only parking, but my church as well. That is unacceptable, especially since there is at LEAST one other plan I've seen that's MUCH better for disabled, aged, residents, families and shoppers, to name a few groups.

Please consider using a few of our \$57 million dollars to study your current ballpark plans and the NEGATIVE EFFECTS it will have on the lives of MANY residents. I can definitely state I will no longer go downtown for ANY reason if the current plans proceed and destroy a major part of my life's enjoyment. I moved from Minneapolis due to the negative impacts that downtown restructuring had on me; PLEASE do not copy their exclusion of disableds, etc. in the plans, use and enjoyment of any neighborhood, but especially downtown.

sincerely,

Joy