

Dear Mayor Coleman,

Hello my name is Joe Olsen and I live in lower town St Paul. I'm writing in regards to the lower town ballpark stadium and the re-use of the Gillette building. From my understanding the intentions of the city are to tear down the building and put in a new ball park, which sounds great, but I'm wondering if you think we could use our resources more efficiently?

I have been hearing plans of a re-purposing of the building instead of knocking it down and the idea seems very promising and potentially more useful for the residents of lower town. I trust that you have the best intentions for the citizens but I wanted to let you know, from a guy who is on the front lines (I live about 2 blocks away from the site), that a year-round multipurpose facility, I believe, would serve us better and be more useful. A year round multipurpose facility will bring more and different kinds of people to the area and in turn would generate greater revenue for everyone. A one purpose facility, while still cool, only brings in one type of person and only for a couple months out of the year...that's more of a nuisance for the residents of lower town than anything else. Plus it seems in ineffective use of money to only be able to generate income from a place like that for only a couple months out of the year...right now the building is a giant waste of space and from my understanding the plans are to keep the land as inefficient and useless as possible.

I understand that there are many factors that go into the process but I believe that if we have to build something at that location lets make it useful year-round and not just for a couple months out of the year. If we are going to do it lets be bold! St. Paul is a town with a ton of character and we should only do what will add to that character and I believe that re-purposing a huge cool old building like the Gillette building is the right choice for our awesome city! Thanks for the time you took to read this email.

Sincerely,

Joe Olsen