

April 2, 2013

Dear Mayor Coleman,

I am a resident of Lowertown and am extremely concerned about the future of our neighborhood. I worry about the effect that a seasonal concept for the ball park may do to the residents and downtown businesses.

The community has lost a significant amount of parking. It does not take an "expert" to examine the impact that the ballpark will have on parking in Lowertown.

You have stated that you "believe it is important we build a first-class facility that we can all be proud of." I feel that the ballpark has been rushed without taking in the consideration of the community in which the ballpark will reside in. With all due respect, the developer should investigate all possibilities starting with the impact of the community, the support from the community, and lastly the revenue streams.

As a condo owner at the Market House, the ballpark project will have significant impact on the value of my property due to the fact there is no parking near our building. I bought my condo in 2011 for the reason that I could park right outside my property. There are very few options to park within a reasonable distance after the current Market House lot is destroyed. When events take place in Lowertown, it will be nearly impossible for one to park in the lot they pay for due to the fact that nearly all lots are first come, first serve. The community has lost a significant amount of parking. It does not take an "expert" to examine the impact that the ballpark will have on parking in Lowertown.

The ball park and the community would benefit from a year round facility that would incorporate the repurposing of the Gillette Building into a greater multi-use facility. It would allow space for retail and an indoor farmers market. With the Gillette Building being the largest concrete reinforced structure in the country, it could easily provide parking for the residents of Market House, the community and for the Saint's Fans.

I ask you to make the *best* decision for the citizens of Lowertown, the residents of Market House, and the businesses of our community. The Gillette building could be amazing, but it is being thrown away. If it were to be recycled with a strong purpose, it would be the biggest and best public relations effort that Saint Paul could possibly do.

I would hope that you would re-evaluate your decision and base it on the impact of the community and the profitability of the ballpark. Lowertown residents should not have to conform to the ballpark, but the ballpark should conform to our community.

Sincerely,

Megan Petersburg

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