

**From:** [Zack Mensinger](#)  
**To:** [\\*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#); [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [#CI-StPaul\\_Ward4](#)  
**Subject:** Support Full Elimination of Parking Minimums  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 4, 2021 10:30:03 PM

---

Dear Council Members,

I write to most strongly support the elimination of all existing parking minimums in St. Paul. The elimination of these draconian requirements is completely in line with many of St. Paul's existing policy goals.

- Requiring unneeded parking makes housing less affordable because parking is expensive to build.
- Requiring unneeded parking dilutes and erodes our tax base.
- Requiring unneeded parking means low income St. Paulites, those least likely to own a car, end up subsidizing the costs of parking for everyone else, which is highly regressive.
- Requiring unneeded parking takes up large amounts of our land area and contributes to water run-off, urban heat, and encourages more driving.
- Requiring unneeded parking favors large chains and companies who can afford to build it, making it harder for small, local businesses to compete.

From the perspectives of equity, the environment, and economics, getting rid of these outdated minimums completely is an easy and common-sense step to make. Please vote to eliminate them and start looking at the important next step, which would be to add parking maximum limits in their place to reign in the outsized portion of our city that has been given over to such a wasteful and detrimental use.

Sincerely,

Zack Mensinger  
Hamline Midway resident  
Ward 4