

Ord – 21-27 – Kevin Gallatin

From: Kevin Gallatin <kevingallatin00@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 9:54 AM

To: CouncilHearing (CI-StPaul) <CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; #CI-StPaul_Ward3 <Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Subject: Support for full elimination of parking minimums

Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

Council President Brendmoen and Council Members,

As a resident of Saint Paul I urge you to support the full elimination of parking minimums. As a city we are facing a number of crises that even full removal will only modestly address, so this is not a time for half measures.

We need to allow housing that people can afford, and a good start is to remove the requirement to build and subsidize off-street parking at up to \$21,500 per space (national average for structured parking). Developers and their lenders are better equipped than the city to evaluate the conditions in the immediate area of a project and provide what their customers & residents need. Experience shows they can and do provide parking even in the absence of requirements. Creating a consistent process across the city is not only more efficient for city staff, but will help residents and developers understand Saint Paul's policies without navigating a patchwork of regulations and divisive hearings.

In recent years the council has wisely upzoned commercial corridors and neighborhood nodes, and supported regional efforts to promote BRT. Eliminating parking minimums will capitalize on those efforts by encouraging development that is not only less expensive, but closer together, less dependent on private automobiles, and less carbon intensive. I encourage you to act boldly on behalf of Saint Paul and the future of our climate.

Thanks,

Kevin Gallatin

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