



**MARRIOTT  
KANSAS CITY  
DOWNTOWN**

April 14, 2020

Mayor Lucas, City Council Members and City Staff:

As a proponent of downtown Kansas City, we at the Kansas City Marriott Downtown strongly urge the City Council to support Ordinance No. 200225, to continue the progress made on the Barney Allis Redevelopment project.

Along with many businesses anchored downtown, The Kansas City Marriott Downtown is an active investor in Kansas City and has been for 32 years. Now, more than ever, we encourage the City to continue to invest in their own success and prioritize the Barney Allis Redevelopment project - even during these challenging times.

Tourism is an extremely important part of the Kansas City economy which tourism supports 48,000 jobs in our community. We are a convention hotel that hosts 220,000 visitors each year. The guests that come and fill downtown, our hotel, the surrounding hotels, the Kansas City Convention Center, Municipal Auditorium and other venues need parking,

The revitalization of the Barney Allis garage is essential to keep conventions and meeting planners and attendees choosing Kansas City as a destination. If you look at Kansas City's largest groups most either drive to Kansas City or rent a car at the airport. The Walker Study concluded how important this garage is to downtown Kansas City and we hope that you look at this study again to understand the importance of this project.

We are a vested part of the downtown business community. We have spent the past several years reinvesting in the hotel by completing a total renovation so that we can continue to support this community by taking care of the guests and organizations that have meetings and events in Downtown Kansas City.

We understand that the City is making difficult decisions every day related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our industry and our hard-working associates have been devastated by this. We look forward to a bright future when downtown will be bustling with events and activities that bring our community together.

By moving this project forward now, the City will be ready to revive the momentum on downtown development and the local economy when this situation subsides. Reinvesting in the Barney Allis parking garage and plaza also demonstrates your support of our business, convention, hotel and tourism industries as they recover from the economic downturn.

We urge you to pass Ordinance No. 200225. We offer our continual support in establishing Kansas City as a desirable place to live, work and enjoy.

Sincerely,  
Cynthia P. Savage  
Kansas City Marriott Downtown