



Resolution Supporting the Redevelopment of Barney Allis Plaza

RESOLUTION

Downtown Kansas City, Mo., is not only the arts and cultural center of the metropolitan area, it is also a vibrant and diverse model of sustainable development, a residential neighborhood, an energetic workplace, and a setting for entrepreneurial creativity. The Downtown Council of Kansas City (DTC) is committed to supporting and encouraging investment in this area by championing projects that embrace this vision, including the redevelopment of Barney Allis Plaza and the Auditorium Parking Garage.

WHEREAS, Barney Allis Plaza (Plaza) is a one-block city-owned urban park, on top of the three-story Auditorium Parking Garage (Garage), bordered by 12th and 13th Streets, Wyandotte and Central Streets in the heart of downtown, and

WHEREAS, Over half of the Garage parking spaces are unusable due to dangerous conditions, continued investment in repairs is unsustainable, the structure is beyond its useful life, and therefore the Garage will close starting on Monday, April 15, 2024, so that crews can begin preparing for abatement and demolition in anticipation of future reconstruction which will begin in April 2024, and

WHEREAS, A rebuilt Garage and Plaza are vital to best fulfill and accommodate upcoming hotel and tourism commitments for the FIFA World Cup 26, downtown baseball, and the South Loop Project. To accomplish this the demolition and construction process must commence by June of 2024, and

WHEREAS, Members of the City Council voted in 2021 to enter into a design-build agreement for the demolition and reconstruction of the Plaza and Garage, and well-developed plans for such were created following a robust community engagement process, and

WHEREAS, It is now crucial to restore and invest in this neglected city-owned asset. The DTC, board of directors, and other prominent business and civic leaders will demonstrate their continued, unified support; and,

WHEREAS, Together, the DTC and its members strongly encourage the City Council and Mayor to take immediate action to fund and advance this essential project forward.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Downtown Council of Kansas City supports the immediate demolition of the current Barney Allis Plaza and Auditorium Parking Garage and the restoration of a new, vibrant Plaza and Garage by the summer of 2026. Further, the Downtown Council commits to supporting and advocating for the funding of the project.

Approved by the Downtown Council Board of Directors on March 7, 2024.