



# **IBEW Local Union 124**

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March 25, 2020

Honorable Kevin O'Neill  
414 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Kansas City MO 64106

Re: Support for reconstruction of the Parking and Plaza at Barney Allis

Dear Council Member Kevin O'Neill/ Mayor Lucas:

I represent IBEW Local Union 124 and I strongly support reconstructing the Parking and the Plaza at Barney Allis and urge you to support Ordinance No. 200225. The underground Auditorium Parking Garage (located below the plaza) is already partly closed, and is experiencing end-of-life failure due to 65 years of salt infiltration and chronic deterioration. It's inevitable the garage will close sooner rather than later, which will negatively impact the parking needs for the convention center, neighboring hotels and employers.

Barney Allis Plaza is an underutilized space in the heart of downtown Kansas City, that does not present a lasting positive image of KC to the millions of visitors each year heading to the Convention Center and other nearby destinations, and who bring billions of dollars of economic impact to the region annually. I agree with Mayor Lucas when he said, "Barney Allis today seems to be a barren place. We're trying to create something more open and welcoming, and get more business developing in the area."

I understand that the City Council will be making difficult budget decisions in the upcoming months. I urge the City Council to prioritize the Barney Allis redevelopment and authorize the funds to continue the progress made thus far. This project is shovel-ready, keeps Kansas Citizens working, and positions Kansas City to emerge even stronger from this current economic downturn.

Kansas City must be prepared to greet visitors from all over the U.S. (and world) to the National League of Cities Conference in November 2022 and the NFL Draft in April 2023. Both events present incredible opportunities to shine a spotlight on our thriving city.

Please join us by giving your support to reconstruct the Parking and Plaza at Barney Allis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John P. Fennessy".

John P. Fennessy  
Business Manager