



January 9, 2012

Mayor R.T. Rybak  
City of Minneapolis  
350 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 331  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Council President Barbara Johnson  
City of Minneapolis  
350 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 307  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear Mayor Rybak and Council President Johnson:

Thank you for your efforts to resolve the stadium issues that face the Vikings and the State of Minnesota. We appreciate your leadership and work to resolve these issues. As we have long maintained, the team and a new multi-purpose stadium are tremendous assets to a local community and to the State.

While we continue to believe that Arden Hills is the ideal stadium location, we have been asked by State Leaders to assist the City of Minneapolis with its site analysis and due diligence. We wanted to follow up with you on the City's stated preference for building a new stadium at the Metrodome site, as you prepare to respond to Governor Dayton's request for the City's stadium proposal by January 12, 2012.

It is imperative that your analysis of Minneapolis stadium sites include all costs associated with each site. Building a stadium on the Metrodome site would require the Vikings to play three seasons at TCF Bank Stadium. To reflect the accurate costs of the Metrodome site, the following issues need to be accounted for in your analysis:

1. TCF Bank Stadium Revenue Limitations: The Vikings have played one game at TCF Bank Stadium, and we have worked well with the University of Minnesota. However, due to limitations on stadium space and capacity, available sponsorships, and fan amenities at TCF Bank Stadium, the Vikings estimate that the team would generate \$12.3 million less each year at TCF Bank Stadium than at the Metrodome – or approximately \$37 million in total operating losses over three seasons.
2. Capital Improvements to TCF Bank Stadium: For TCF Bank Stadium to meet minimum NFL requirements for three seasons, stadium contractors and architects estimate that nearly \$11 million in facility upgrades would be necessary for this college football stadium. It is also important to note these upgrades would benefit the University of Minnesota on a long term basis.

3. NFL Program Requirements at Metrodome: Program requirements for parking for Vikings' premium customers (club seat holders, suite owners, etc.) include 2,500 parking spaces on-site or immediately adjacent to the stadium. To meet these requirements, there are \$19 million in costs associated with acquiring and building the additional parking inventory.

The \$67 million in costs identified above bring the total costs to build at the Metrodome site to \$962 million. In addition to these cost considerations, the Vikings have concerns about the significant disruptions to our football team, our fans, and our sponsors and partners, as well as the potential challenges created for University of Minnesota neighborhoods, during the three-year period when we would have to play our games at TCF Bank Stadium.

Again, we greatly appreciate your work to resolve the stadium issue. While the Metrodome site could be workable, it is imperative that the issues identified above are addressed as you develop your proposal for a Minneapolis solution.

Please contact us with questions or if you need further information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mark Wilf  
Owner/President

cc: Governor Mark Dayton  
Representative Morrie Lanning  
Senator Julie Rosen  
MSFC Chair Ted Mondale