

# Greater Kansas City Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO

*Affiliated With The Building and Construction Trades Department*  
400 SOUTH MAIN  
INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI 64050

**Dave Coleman**  
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**Ralph Oropeza**  
Business Manager/ Financial  
Secretary



March 26, 2024

Re: Barney Allis Redevelopment

Dear Mayor Lucas and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of the Greater Kansas City Building and Construction Trades, I respectfully urge you to take immediate action on the redevelopment of Barney Allis Plaza, and fully support Ordinance No. 240313.

The conversation about Barney Allis redevelopment has been ongoing for several years, but **today we are at a critical juncture**. The city has an incredibly short window to ensure this existing asset is rebuilt before Kansas City is in the international spotlight. On top of the volume of visitors who attend events at the Convention Center, we will host thousands of first-time guests the summer of 2026 for the FIFA World Cup who will ascend onto our downtown and beyond.

Barney Allis Plaza offers visitors a first impression of our city. Re-imagined from its current state into a thriving, arts-focused greenspace, there is tremendous potential for Barney Allis to become an iconic, world-class gathering place, creating a huge draw not only for World Cup fans, but also for convention business and tourism sectors, as well as residents.

Please keep in mind, the garage is vital to best fulfill and accommodate upcoming hotel and tourism commitments for the World Cup, downtown baseball, and the South Loop Project.

**Timing is everything. Demolition must begin by May 2024 for the project to be completed in time for the World Cup.**

This project represents thousands of labor hours that will directly impact the Building Trades of Kansas City. The men and women of the Greater Kansas City Building and Construction Trades rely on projects such as this one and ask that you consider supporting this important project.

I recognize that the City Council will be wrestling with difficult budget decisions. However, now more than ever, I encourage the city to prioritize the Barney Allis Redevelopment project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ralph Oropeza". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ralph" and last name "Oropeza" clearly distinguishable.

**Ralph Oropeza**  
**Business Manager**  
**The Greater KC**  
**Building & Construction Trades Council**