



March 24, 2020

Dear Mayor Lucas, City Council Members, and City Staff,

As long-time stewards of Downtown Kansas City, we at BNIM want to keep the momentum alive in KC. With all the great things happening in our City and the national attention gained through championships, large-scale civic initiatives, and the recent commitment to free-fare public transportation, we see a tremendous wave of positive change that is elevating all boats in Kansas City.

KCMO will be more attractive than ever after the COVID-19 response. This crisis is bringing everyone closer to nature, behavior is changing, it is creating a rapid period of innovation and workplace evolution, and it is bringing us back to the City Beautiful Movement that brought parks system to KC. We are well-positioned to emerge from this unprecedented global event as a healthier, more vibrant city for family and visitors.

We strongly believe that moving the Barney Allis Plaza Redevelopment project forward is important as it capitalizes on the continued success of the downtown redevelopment. As co-chairs of the ULI TAP committee that evaluated Barney Allis Plaza for the downtown council, our BNIM leadership hopes you agree that supporting Ordinance No 200225 means supporting a project that will continue to build on the momentum we have all invested in as community members, professionals, and civic leaders.

The primary point made by the Barney Allis stakeholders we spoke with throughout the ULI TAP process is that this project presents a tremendous opportunity to make Kansas City a great place to live, work, and visit. In particular, we believe the reasons to support this project are three-fold: the unsafe conditions of the current garage, the continuous investment of city money to simply keep it open, and a plaza whose design no one wants brave on a regular basis.

Through great government leadership, we know that we will be able to bring hope for moving our economy forward after our current situation is resolved. Why not invest in the city, the residents, and the companies of downtown as they continue to move this city forward more in the last ten years than we have seen in a lifetime?

As we have done for the past 50 years, we offer our support in making Downtown Kansas City a vibrant and healthy place to call home.

Sincerely,

Steve McDowell FAIA  
President & CEO

Craig Scranton AIA  
Principal

Kansas City  
Des Moines  
San Diego

2460 PERSHING F  
SUITE 100  
KANSAS CITY  
MO 64108  
816 783 1500  
BNIM.COM