

Public Testimony - MacKenzie Fulmer 4.16.2026

Hello,

I've been living in Midtown KC for 10 years and I'm emailing you to express my opposition to the downtown stadium proposal.

We're facing a \$100 million deficit in 2027, yet our focus is leveraging \$600 million on a new ballpark? It makes no sense. No feasibility study, no location study, no environmental study, no evidence of positive ROI...hell the Sherman's haven't even said they publicly want this location.

Simultaneously, funding for the arts in KC are always under threat, have programs that disappear (Open Doors), an "arts" District that's pricing out galleries and replacing them with expensive condos, and institutions left to fund themselves. KC Symphony raised \$40 million for their own new venue, I think John Sherman can raise his own funds.

A 2022 study by Burns & McDonald found that Kauffman Stadium was satisfactory. I'd rather the city leverage bonds to repair the current iconic stadium AND build up Raytown (those in favor often claim that a stadium builds up the areas around them).

If the council members ignore the will of the people in favor of a billionaire's desire, not only will they all be out of a job next year, the city will be even further in debt and on the hook for a defunct venue in an over developed location.

I also happen to drive by Washington Square Park every day on my commute to my job in the Crossroads. The thought of being stuck in traffic by a stadium (after all of the road diets as well) makes me want to hurl.

Someone at the Tuesday meeting mentioned the Chappell Roan concert. He referenced it as a success story. I was personally in attendance and can attest that at the end of the night, the exit paths were insufficient and there were not nearly enough officers directing traffic as people stumbled back to their cars. We tip toed shoulder to shoulder down the hill from the WWI Memorial like cattle. We feared that at any moment a panic would make the crowd stampede. Now imagine that every weekend April-Oct.

The people who live in Midtown and Downtown will suffer and be displaced by continuous rising cost and none of you seem to care. Leadership seems to think that there's an endless supply of rich folks to supply revenue for condos and entertainment and there isn't. Once you've pushed everyone out there will be no one left to buy tickets to Royals games.

Sincerely someone who'd rather give \$600 million to have the Savannah Bananas move here,
MacKenzie Fulmer