

From: [Cheryl Dillard](#)
To: [Barnes, Lee](#); [Bunch, Eric](#); [Public Testimony](#); Andrea.Bough@kcmo.com; [Ellington, Brandon](#); [Loar, Teresa](#); [Fowler, Dan](#); [Shields, Katheryn](#); Morgain.Said@kcmo.org
Subject: #230198 400 Main Street/Harvest Development
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 2:49:09 PM

Dear Neighborhood Planning & Development Committee:

I have been an appointee on the City Market Oversight Committee for more than 15 years. During my tenure, I've witnessed the market grow and transform into a robust and popular shopping destination and public gathering space. I don't want to see this progress undone by something as easily remedied as providing what was originally promised in the City Harvest plan presented to City Council in 2021: parking for City Market employees.

Adequate employee parking for City Market's workforce is imperative to the long-term viability of the businesses that have operated for decades there. Some of these businesses provide low-income customers who reside in nearby food deserts and rely on food assistance with vital access to fresh produce. Eliminating employee parking threatens this important aspect of City Market's role in our community. If businesses that serve these populations lose their hourly labor to other employers elsewhere who can offer convenient parking as a benefit of employment, then these operations will slowly suffocate and fail. Of course, this same logic applies to all the businesses at City Market, but it's particularly insensitive to jeopardize businesses that serve these vulnerable populations and are also businesses that attract and underpin the diversity of the market which is what makes it the community treasure that it is.

Make no mistake, I think additional residential density is a good thing for the River Market community but absolutely not at the expense of City Market and it's small, locally owned businesses that are established and are very much a part of what will make this development attractive to renters. I urge the Neighborhood

Planning & Development Committee to require the 400 Main/City Harvest development team to deliver on their pitch that won them the opportunity in the first place.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Dillard

Mayor's Appointee

1246 West 67th Terrace

Kansas City, MO 64113