From: <u>Laura Lynch</u>
To: <u>Public Testimony</u>

Subject: case #230198 - City Harvest Testimony Letter

Date: Monday, March 6, 2023 4:09:39 PM

Dear Representatives:

I am Laura Lynch, the owner of Lynchpin Ideas, LLC, a WBE/DBE/SLBE-certified communications firm. After five years on the Country Club Plaza, in December 2022 I relocated my company to a beautiful space in the heart of City Market, overlooking the market itself. Though I was drawn by the view and the location on the KC Streetcar line, what clinched the decision was the assurance of parking for each of my employees — as detailed within the terms of my lease.

While I am open to the overall ideal of growth that the City Harvest Development project is assuring, I am concerned that the scope of the project has shifted to reduce available parking. This elimination of spaces will not only hinder my ability to assure parking for my employees, it will also dampen my ability to hire and retain top talent. Yes, in an ideal world, we would all live just down the street from our office and walk to work — or commute reliably and easily using public transportation. But today, that simply isn't the case.

The reality is that I signed a lease based on having available parking for my employees. And to be clear, "available" to me also means within close proximity to our building. As a woman who employs other women, I can assure you that a "safe walk to work" is not a luxury, but a necessity: the farther we must walk, the more dangerous it is. That's just a fact.

I ask that you consider the needs of your tenants; we're the folks who add to the fabric of this amazing mix of residential, retail and business owners that make City Market an attractive destination for residents, workers and tourists alike.

Thanks for listening,



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