

July 1, 2019

Dear Members of the Planning Commission, Mayor Frey, and Council Member Fletcher,

We support the commitments the City of Minneapolis has made to reducing carbon emissions, creating welcoming and accessible neighborhoods, and designing a City where it is safe and enjoyable to walk, bike, or use transit. We see these commitments outlined in the Climate Action Plan, the Complete Streets Policy, and the Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

We look to these commitments as **we submit this letter in opposition to the proposed Heritage Landing Parking Ramp Project proposed by the Federal Reserve Bank**. This project proposes to convert a 300-space surface parking lot in the North Loop area of downtown Minneapolis to a parking ramp housing approximately 800 vehicle spaces.

Increased availability of vehicle parking leads directly to increased driving and more pollution. This project directly contradicts the City's ability to meet the goal of reducing carbon emissions by 80% by 2050.

The proposal to establish a parking garage on the site does not comply with the policies from the North Loop Small Area Plan adopted by the City Council in 2010, which calls for high-density housing throughout the North Loop, fewer automobile-oriented uses, and structured parking that is embedded within development projects.

The Heritage Landing Parking Ramp project site is located in a walkable neighborhood with bicycle infrastructure and transit access. If our region is to solve our challenges around climate change and housing shortages, this site and others like it should be used for housing or mixed-use development.

We urge the Federal Reserve Bank to consider transportation options for their employees that are cost-effective and increase the public good, such as transit passes, incentives for biking and walking, and carpooling. We urge the City of Minneapolis to reject the proposed parking ramp at Heritage Landing.

Sincerely,



Linnea House

Interim Executive Director, Move Minnesota

