



November 18, 2015

Subject: Minnesota Vikings Request for Tailgating  
From: Bridgewater Lofts Board of Directors

Whereas the Minnesota Vikings have requested use of the MN Tech Center's parking lot on the corner of S. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street for tailgating purposes by their fans during Vikings games;

The Board of Directors of the Bridgewater Lofts Association had reviewed the request and has determined to oppose the use for reasons including the following:

1. Residential Neighborhood

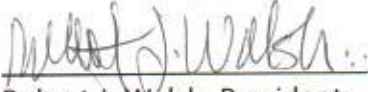
The parking lot in question with 110 stalls is bounded by the Bridgewater Lofts Condominiums (approximately 280 units) and the Stonebridge Lofts Condominiums (approximately 160 units). Since completion of the Bridgewater lofts in 2007 and while the Vikings were playing at the Metrodome, the residents of the Bridgewater experienced tailgating on the streets of S. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and, to some extent, in the area parking lots. Tailgating started hours before the game and ended hours after the game. During this time, residents experienced loud noises, intoxicated fans, trash, public urination and fights. The problems increased throughout the day. Such behavior in any area but especially a residential neighborhood is inappropriate. The request for tailgating use will only increase the opportunity for disruption with even more fans arriving early, drinking alcohol, and staying late. The Vikings should not be looking at a residential area as the site for increased tailgating.

2. Access for Resident Parking

On S. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the Bridgewater has three curb cuts allowing entrance and egress to and from garage parking for residents (516 stalls), guest parking (8 stalls) and commercial patrons (27 stalls). During the games, access for this use is restricted and causes traffic jams. It is extremely difficult to get into or out of the parking facilities. (In addition, during games, parking meter rates are increased substantially affecting on street parking for residents or guests).

3. City's Goal for Residential

Allowing tailgating adjacent to residential buildings does not support the City's stated goal of doubling the number of residents over the next several years.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Walsh", written over a horizontal line.

Robert J. Walsh, President  
Bridgewater Lofts Association  
Board of Directors  
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