



Abundant housing, low-carbon transportation, and sustainable land use

## Sustain Saint Paul

PO Box 16164, Saint Paul, MN 55116

[www.sustainstpaul.org](http://www.sustainstpaul.org) | [info@sustainstpaul.org](mailto:info@sustainstpaul.org)

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### Our Mission

Sustain Saint Paul champions abundant housing, low-carbon transportation, and sustainable land use in the City of Saint Paul through education, advocacy and political action, to ensure a more just and equitable city for all current and future residents.

Tuesday, April 22nd, 2025

Dear Senators Pappas, Xiong, and Fateh,

We represent Sustain Saint Paul, a volunteer-driven grassroots organization of Saint Paul residents who champion abundant housing, low-carbon transportation, and sustainable land use policies in the City of Saint Paul. We are writing to urge you to add an amendment to the State and Local Government Committee's omnibus bill that would eliminate minimum parking requirements in the Capitol Area.

The City of Saint Paul eliminated minimum parking requirements from its Zoning Code a few years ago. Doing so was an extremely modest first-step for the City to get out of its own way towards greater climate resiliency, economic vibrancy, and fiscal stability. Saint Paul has set ambitious goals to increase the supply of new homes, reduce its collective carbon footprint through walkable, transit-oriented development, and to stabilize its tax base by catalyzing real estate development. Parking mandates were an unnecessary inhibition to all of these goals, and removing them was a prerequisite step towards a better future.

Unfortunately, the zoning rules that govern the Capitol Area still include excessive minimum parking requirements—and the City of Saint Paul lacks the authority to change them. These requirements are a major impediment to building a more vibrant and dynamic environment around our State Capitol, and an obstacle to the City of Saint Paul's goals for greater fiscal and environmental resilience. Eliminating them is a necessary first-step towards those goals, for the benefit of our City and all those from around the state that come to visit our Capitol.

Thank you in advance for working to ensure that this change is included in the upcoming Omnibus bill.

Sincerely,

Sustain Saint Paul's Board of Directors

