

Skol Vikings!

New plan for 'People's Stadium' in downtown Minneapolis is unveiled

The Minnesota Vikings could one day be playing at a new site that is less than a football field away from their current field.

Gov. Mark Dayton, team representatives and political leaders unveiled a plan March 1 for a new \$975 million stadium to be built largely in the parking lot of the current Metrodome site.

Under the plan, \$427 million of the cost would be paid by the team, \$398 million by the the state and \$150 million by Minneapolis. The state's share would come from an expansion of charitable gambling to include electronic pull tabs, while the city portion would come from the redirecting of some convention center and hospitality taxes.

It is expected the team would need to play one year at TCF Bank Stadium at the

University of Minnesota during the new stadium construction.

"We are pleased that those representatives of the Vikings, the City of Minneapolis and the state have successfully completed their negotiations to build a new stadium at the Metrodome site. We will now be working to finalize language for a new bill that will implement the proposed agreement," Rep. Morrie Lanning (R-Moorhead), the lead House negotiator, said in a statement.

The actual stadium bill is expected to be introduced on Monday with many committee hearings likely to follow.

Before any shovels go into the ground, approval will be needed from both the Legislature and the Minneapolis City Council, neither of which is guaranteed.

— M. Cook

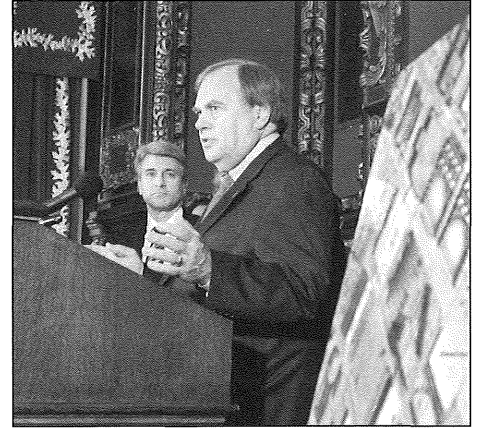
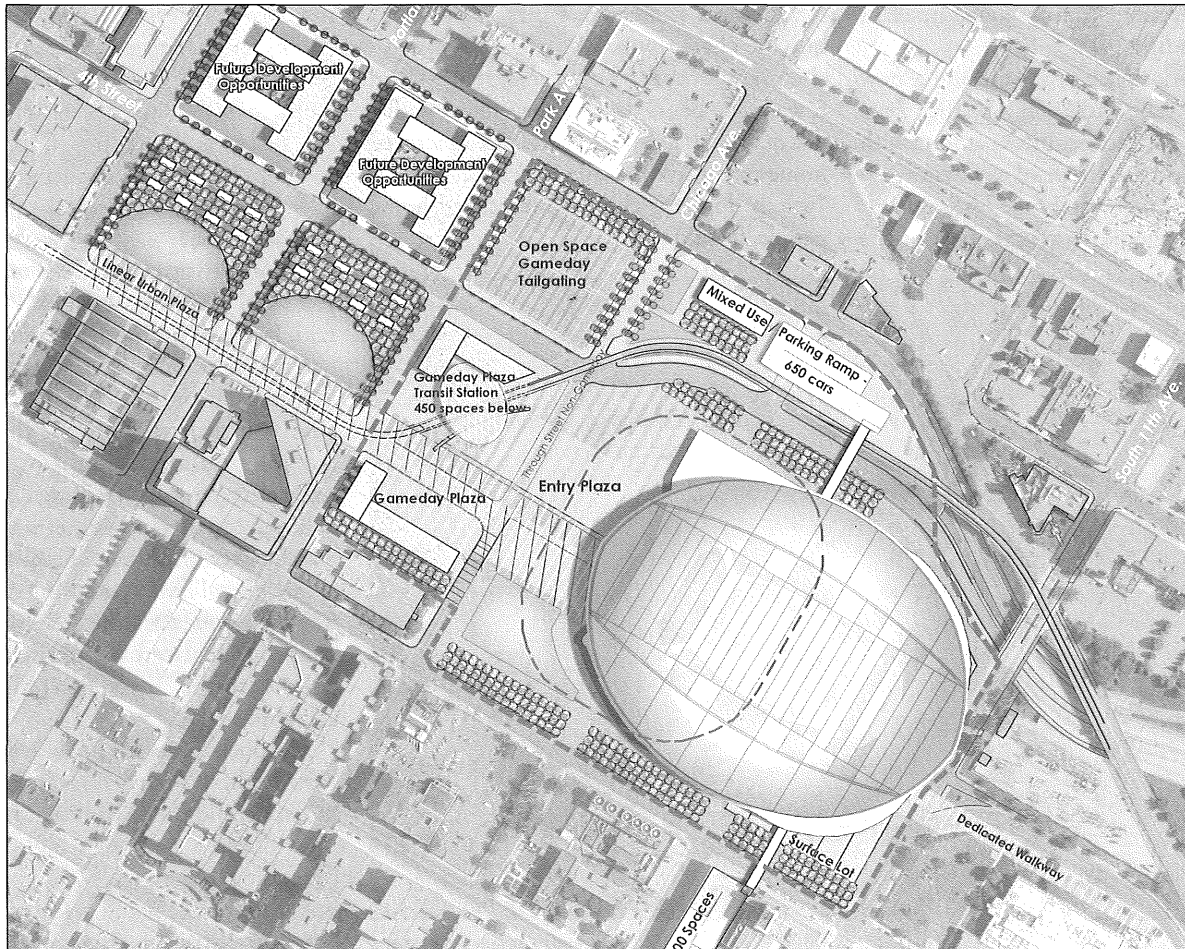


PHOTO BY ANDREW VONBANK

Rep. Morrie Lanning, the lead House negotiator, speaks at a March 1 press conference unveiling a new stadium plan for the Minnesota Vikings.

Proposed Minneapolis Vikings stadium site



Map courtesy of the Minnesota Vikings

Dashed line indicates the current footprint of the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome.