

Thirty years ago the Minnesota Vikings and Twins moved from the suburbs to downtown Minneapolis to be at the center of our metropolitan area and to take advantage of the infrastructure, population and energy of the urban core. That move produced a Super Bowl, two World Series, the Final Four and other world-class events which have entertained millions of Minnesotans and added vitality to downtown Minneapolis, the region's economic engine. Developing a new \$1 billion Vikings stadium in the suburbs, at a location without supporting infrastructure, would be an expensive mistake.

Members of 2020 Partners—individuals and businesses working to leverage our assets to build a greater metropolitan region—support a new “People’s Stadium” in downtown Minneapolis.

- + Downtown offers trains, buses, bicycles, pedi-cabs, taxis and cars that converge and connect to public transportation, freeways, parking garages, sidewalks and bike paths. A new downtown stadium would require little new transportation infrastructure.
- + Downtown is the hub of the region's transportation system, making it accessible for fans and those most in need of the jobs the facility will provide.
- + Downtown offers opportunities to create a multi-purpose, sustainable facility that is programmed on a year-round basis, and is more energy-efficient for the entire metropolitan area.
- + Downtown's 263 restaurants and bars, 28 hotels, 27 performing arts, live music and sports venues, and the state's largest Convention Center will support and serve a new multi-purpose facility and create more opportunities for new businesses and new jobs. Downtown has more than 2 million square feet of retail, one of the highest concentrations of shops in any city its size.
- + Downtown is the location of award-winning Target Field, which has been hailed as the best ballpark in America, demonstrating we have the skills and experience to deliver a world-class facility.
- + Downtown is the best place to make a \$1 billion civic investment in our future.

We urge our political leaders to keep the Vikings in Minnesota and to do so in downtown Minneapolis.

Respectfully,

2020 Partners Steering Committee and Members

*This statement was adopted unanimously by the membership of  
2020 Partners at its September 21, 2011 meeting.*