



Thank you for coming. I'd like to take a moment to introduce a few of our neighbors who are joining us here today.

Heather Huseby, Exec Director Youth Link

Sharon & Brian Berberich, Theatrical Costume Company

John Wanner, Wanner Engineering

We learned through Governor Dayton's press conference earlier today that the Linden Ave. site for a Vikings stadium is a viable possibility. We also heard that it is their opinion that any concerns we have in regard to a stadium at this site are manageable –

In response to this we want to be clear --- we don't believe that our concerns are manageable. We continue to have significant reservations about the idea of a stadium a block and a half away from the Basilica of Saint Mary. We are concerned that a stadium this close will have serious repercussions not only for our community, but also for our outreach ministry to the poor, and our civic involvement with the downtown community.

We shared our concerns with Governor Dayton at a meeting last Friday. At that meeting we said that we could not see how our concerns could be addressed to our satisfaction. It was slightly disconcerting to hear through media reports that our concerns are manageable – our concerns remain, construction of a stadium only

300 feet away from us, the damage it could do to this historic landmark and the traffic, congestion and noise of 60,000 people attending a game while we're conducting Sunday masses for thousands of people are serious and significant. While we are certainly willing to meet again with the Governor, at this time we are also exploring other options that might be available to us.