

**Update to Campus Neighbors on U of M Stadium EIS  
Commitments  
April 8, 2009**

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**I. Background**

**New on-campus football stadium opening in September 2009.**

From 1924 until Gopher football moved to the Metrodome in 1982, football games were held at Memorial Stadium, on a site across the street from the new stadium, on the east bank of The Twin Cities campus. There were 65,000 seats in Memorial Stadium. There will be 50,000 seats in the new stadium. The first sporting event to be held at the new stadium will be a football scrimmage on Saturday, August 22. The first intercollegiate football game in the new stadium will be on Saturday, September 12—Minnesota versus Air Force. A full schedule for the 2009 football season is included as Appendix 1.

In 2006, the University completed an environmental impact statement (EIS) that outlined a number of commitments with implications for the broader community. There was extensive public consultation and comment on the draft EIS, which helped to shape the University's planning for the stadium. More information about the EIS, the planned mitigations, and the stadium in general is at [http://stadium.gophersports.com/about\\_the\\_stadium.html](http://stadium.gophersports.com/about_the_stadium.html)

### **Community consultation established early in the process.**

Throughout the early planning and development of the new stadium, the University has benefited from consultation with campus neighbors, local businesses, and local units of government. The Stadium Area Advisory Group (SAAG) was formally created in 2004. The SAAG, made up of representatives from local governments and neighborhood and business associations next to campus, meets periodically throughout the year to share information and provide feedback to the University. Other advisory committees have also been convened to engage University community members in consultation on the stadium.

## **II. Stadium Events**

As discussed in the EIS, only 8 to 12 events of the scale of a football game are anticipated during a typical year. For 2009, the only major events (that is, events of 25,000+ people) that are currently scheduled at TCF Bank Stadium are seven Gopher football home games. Smaller events, for example, commencements, marching band events, or meetings, are likely to be scheduled at the new stadium throughout the year. The University will work to avoid scheduling events at the other major venues on campus concurrently with home football games.

## **III. Planning for Game Day Operations**

### **Game day operations planning—extensive, intensive, inclusive.**

In January 2008, President Bruininks charged the Game Day Operations Committee with planning for all aspects of operating the stadium and the campus on game days. Athletic director Joel Maturi and associate vice president of University Services Laurie Scheich cochair the committee. Members of the Game Day Operations Committee include staff, faculty, students, and campus-area neighborhood and business association representatives.

The Game Day Committee created subcommittees to plan for the many areas of game day operations:

- A **site operations** group to develop policies and procedures for the operation of the stadium itself and the adjacent plazas, including ticketing, maintenance, security, and first aid.

- A **campus operations group** to answer questions about what needs to be done to manage all the game day activities taking place outside of the stadium itself, including waste management, parking, and transportation.
- A **traditions and homecoming group** to look at game day culture, how to engage the colleges and academic units in game day festivities, when and where the homecoming parade should occur, and the like.
- A **tailgating group** to develop recommendations about locations, hours, and policies. An objective was to strike a balance between sufficient regulation and making tailgating on campus welcoming enough that people will come to campus to celebrate, rather than looking for locations elsewhere in the neighborhoods.
- A **communications group** to identify and plan for game day communications needs for internal and external audiences. Areas being addressed include parking and transportation, tailgating, campus and stadium operations, game day traditions, and homecoming.
- Another group provided recommendations on **community concerns and connections**, linking game day operations with the off-campus environment.

Because universities have been hosting large-scale football games for decades, the game day operations planning included research on best practices at other campuses around the country. Many committee members made site visits to other campus communities.

#### **IV. Game Day Event Management**

The University will create an event management advisory committee that will meet regularly to coordinate activities on game days. This committee will be chaired by the senior associate athletic director for facilities and operations. The committee will include representatives from relevant functional areas of the University and local agency representatives. For the first year of operations, the SAAG will meet postgame as needed and provide feedback to representatives of the event management advisory committee. The SAAG meeting schedule for 2009 is included as Appendix 2. SAAG meeting schedules are subject to adjustment.

## **V. Parking, Traffic, and Transportation**

The following initiatives to mitigate and manage traffic will be implemented. Many of these initiatives have been developed in cooperation with local governments and the Minnesota State Fair. A campus map showing parking locations and the game day shuttle bus routes is attached as Appendix 3.

- Event parking lots will be located throughout the Twin Cities campus, including on the east bank, west bank, and St. Paul areas of campus. This will help to distribute parking and traffic more evenly, rather than concentrating it only near the stadium. The University is updating its lease with the State Fair to add supplemental parking on game days.
- University shuttle buses will be provided from the West Bank to TCF Bank Stadium, with one intermediate stop near Coffman Union. Another shuttle bus will be provided from the State Fair/St. Paul campus to TCF Bank Stadium via the transitway. The service will encourage event patrons to park farther from the stadium, where dispersing after the game to the regional highway networks will be less congested.
- All season ticket holders are being encouraged to select a preassigned and prepaid parking option, using the same online system to purchase their parking and their seats in the stadium. When ticket holders have their parking assigned in advance, it will minimize the time required to enter and exit event parking lots, which will help to minimize roadway congestion. In addition, season ticket holders will be provided with advance instructions for the optimal route to their designated event parking facility.
- On game days, TCF Bank Stadium will be served by Metro Transit Bus routes 2, 3, 6, and 16.
- Traffic control officers will be positioned at key intersections, parking access points, and pedestrian crossings to ensure safe, efficient movement through these critical areas.
- The University, in partnership with the City of Minneapolis, will implement an advance traffic control system on the East Bank that will minimize delay at traffic signals, particularly during special events.
- The University will operate a system of permanent and portable changeable message signs on the key roadways leading to TCF Bank Stadium. These signs will communicate parking availability, alert drivers to any event-related lane closures or detours, and warn non-event traffic to avoid campus roadways.
- The University will operate an on-campus traffic management center to monitor the advance traffic control system and video feeds from traffic cameras that will be installed at key campus intersections. This will enable University personnel to respond to traffic incidents and congestion more

rapidly and communicate issues to the public via roadway changeable message signs and the University Web site.

- On-street parking will be temporarily restricted at select locations during major events to promote efficient traffic flows.
- Some streets immediately adjacent to TCF Bank Stadium will be partially or fully closed during major events to safely and efficiently accommodate large pedestrian volumes before and after events. The University's Office of Parking and Transportation is currently working with city agencies, counties, MN DOT and the State Fair to determine street and lane closures and any necessary detours on game days. When these plans are finalized, the information will be shared with the SAAG and will be posted on the game day Web site.
- Ample secure bike storage will be provided immediately adjacent to TCF Bank Stadium to encourage bicycle use.

## **VI. Tailgating**

Since Gopher football has not been played on campus for 27 years, it has been necessary for the University to develop a new policy and rules for tailgating. A policy for responsible tailgating on game days was developed to provide a framework that enhances the football game experience, promotes a safe campus environment, and preserves the beauty of the campus.

Tailgating will be permitted in many of the University's surface parking lots (and in leased parking areas at the State Fair), but not in parking ramps and garages. By providing ample tailgating space on campus, with good shuttle connections to the stadium, it's expected that off-campus tailgating will be minimized. Prohibited activities in tailgating areas include disruptive music or noise.

As with other areas of game day operations, there will be close monitoring, so that any necessary rules changes may be considered and implemented as the season progresses.

The permitted tailgating locations are indicated graphically on the map in Appendix 3, and the complete list of tailgating rules, including prohibited activities and rules of conduct, is attached as Appendix 4. The University's administrative policy on tailgating, and the associated tailgating rules, are posted on the Web at [http://policy.umn.edu/groups/ppd/documents/policy/tailgating\\_pol.cfm](http://policy.umn.edu/groups/ppd/documents/policy/tailgating_pol.cfm)

## **VII. Litter and Toilets on and Around Campus**

The University has a system of litter and recycling containers located throughout campus that will be serviced pre-, during, and post-game.

Litter and recycling collection will be provided at all tailgating and parking lots on campus. Each vehicle entering the tailgate lots will be provided with a garbage bag and a recycling bag that can be filled and then left on the site for collection as the site is serviced throughout the day.

In the first season, litter and recycling containers will be provided and serviced on game days along major pedestrian routes to and from the stadium, including University Avenue as far west as 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.E.; 5<sup>th</sup> Street S.E., west to Dinkytown; 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.E., north to Como; and University Avenue, east to Huron Boulevard. Placement of litter and recycling containers will be adjusted throughout the season as needed, based on what is learned from game day experience.

Litter and recycling management as described will be the responsibility of the University of Minnesota Department of Facilities Management. Locations for placement of receptacles on city and county streets were developed in consultation with the City of Minneapolis's Office of Waste Management.

Portable toilets will be provided and serviced at all permitted tailgating locations and at other locations on campus.

### **VIII. Public Safety**

Before, during, and after football games, the University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD) will coordinate public safety activities on campus, including stadium and tailgate lots. The UMPD will also manage traffic control operations in conjunction with the City of Minneapolis.

The UMPD will assign approximately 50 officers for duty in the stadium and plazas and for traffic control, and approximately 20 officers to patrol tailgate areas. UMPD will supplement its own force with public safety officers from a number of jurisdictions, who will be acting under the UMPD license and supervision.

In addition, there will be party patrols in the campus area neighborhoods on Friday and Saturday nights of key home game weekends. Based on the experience during the first season, the timing and approach will be adjusted as needed.

Public safety and emergency management planning is coordinated extensively with police, fire, and emergency management personnel from each of the adjoining local jurisdictions and the State of Minnesota. UMPD has researched best public safety practices at other campuses and will be applying innovative approaches that have been found to be effective in other communities.

## **IX. Further Information**

Game day operations planning continues, and as the season approaches, current information for ticket holders and the public will be posted on the TCF Bank Stadium Web site at

[http://stadium.gophersports.com/gopher\\_gameday\\_experience.html](http://stadium.gophersports.com/gopher_gameday_experience.html)

Elements of the game day plan will be evaluated and adjusted as necessary as the first season is under way. SAAG members will provide feedback to the campus operations staff team during the season.

Further questions at this time may be directed to Jan Morlock, director of community relations for the Twin Cities campus, at [jam@umn.edu](mailto:jam@umn.edu).

## Appendix 1 Football—2009 Season Schedule

Game times are determined closer to the date of the game. Generally, games begin late morning (11 a.m.), mid afternoon (2 p.m.), or early evening (7 p.m.) Home games are indicated in **BOLD**.

Sat, Sep 05	Syracuse	at Syracuse, N.Y.
<b>Sat, Sep 12</b>	<b>Air Force</b>	<b>TCF Bank Stadium</b>
<b>Sat, Sep 19</b>	<b>California</b>	<b>TCF Bank Stadium</b>
Sat, Sep 26	Northwestern	at Evanston, Ill.
<b>Sat, Oct 03</b>	<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>TCF Bank Stadium</b>
<b>Sat, Oct 10</b>	<b>Purdue</b>	<b>TCF Bank Stadium (Homecoming)</b>
Sat, Oct 17	Penn State	at University Park, Pa.
Sat, Oct 24	Ohio State	at Columbus, Ohio
<b>Sat, Oct 31</b>	<b>Michigan State</b>	<b>TCF Bank Stadium</b>
<b>Sat, Nov 07</b>	<b>Illinois</b>	<b>TCF Bank Stadium</b>
<b>Sat, Nov 14</b>	<b>South Dakota State</b>	<b>TCF Bank Stadium</b>
Sat, Nov 21	Iowa	at Iowa City, Iowa

The season schedule will be updated from time to time on the [www.gophersports.com](http://www.gophersports.com) Web site, at [http://www.gophersports.com/SportSelect.dbml?DB\\_OEM\\_ID=8400&KEY=&SPID=3280&SPSID=38609](http://www.gophersports.com/SportSelect.dbml?DB_OEM_ID=8400&KEY=&SPID=3280&SPSID=38609)

**Appendix 2**  
**Stadium Area Advisory Group Meeting Schedule for Remainder**  
**of 2009**

(Note: meeting dates are subject to adjustment as needed throughout the year.)

Tuesday, June 23, 5:30–7 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center

Monday, August 24, 5–6 p.m.

Monday, September 14, 5–6 p.m.

Monday, September 21, 5–6 p.m.

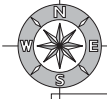
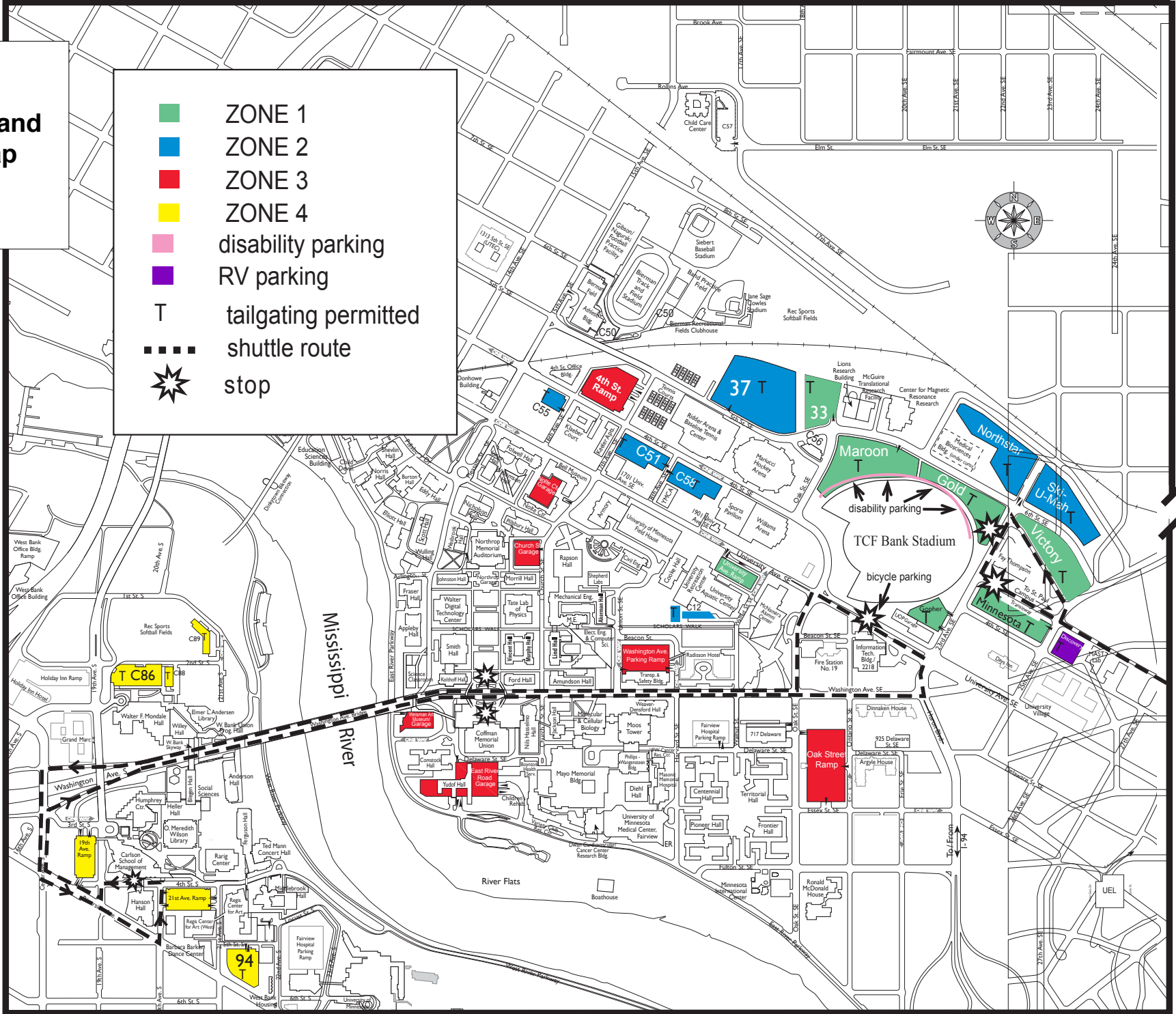
Monday, October 5, 5–6 p.m.

Tuesday, November 24, 5:30–7 p.m.

(Locations of meetings August–November are to be confirmed.)

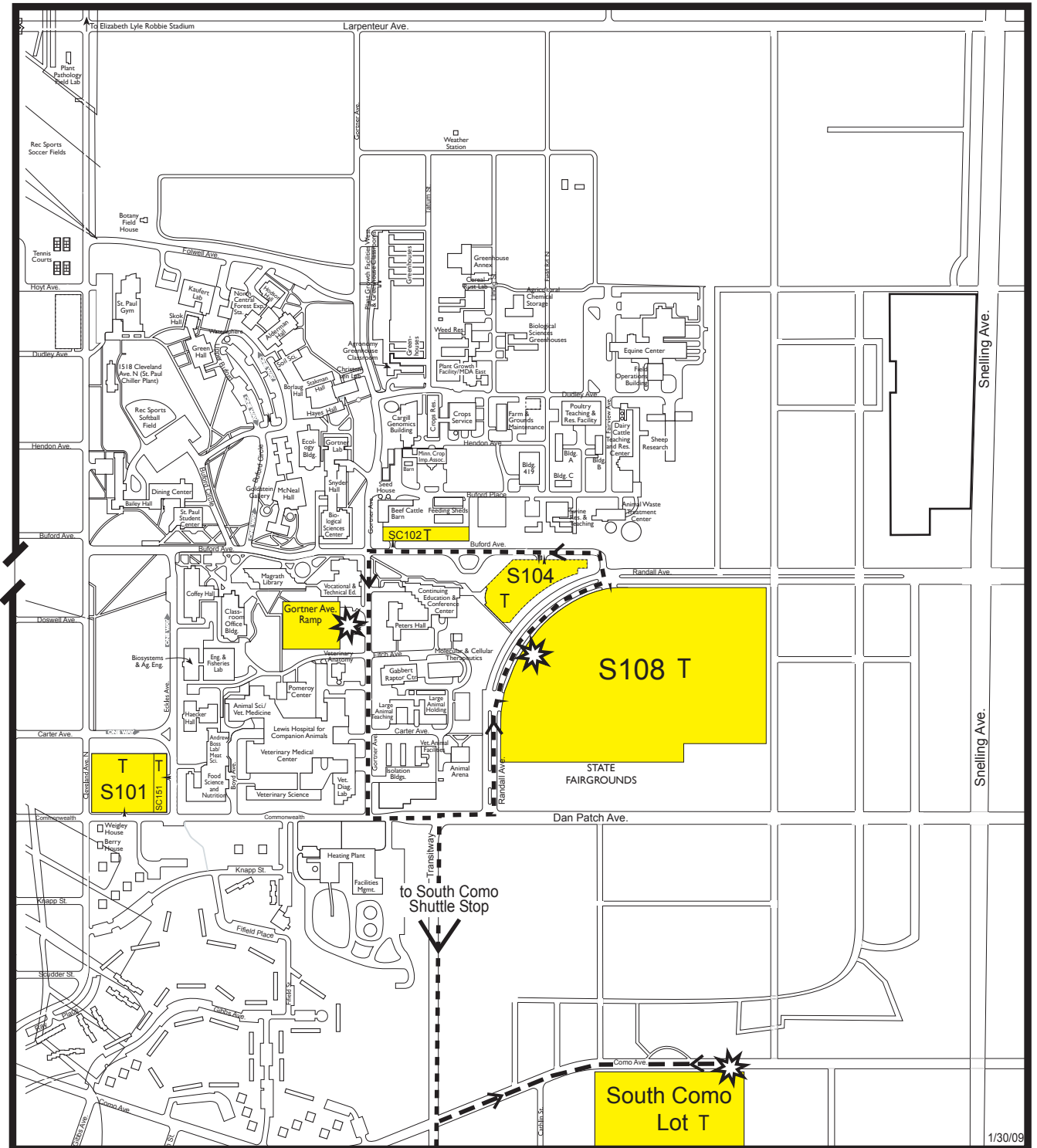
# Appendix 3 Parking, Shuttle Bus, and Tailgating Map Minneapolis

<span style="color: green;">■</span>	ZONE 1
<span style="color: blue;">■</span>	ZONE 2
<span style="color: red;">■</span>	ZONE 3
<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	ZONE 4
<span style="color: pink;">■</span>	disability parking
<span style="color: purple;">■</span>	RV parking
T	tailgating permitted
— · — · — ·	shuttle route
★	stop



# Appendix 3 Parking, Shuttle Bus, and Tailgating Map

## St. Paul



## **Appendix 3 Tailgating Rules**

The University of Minnesota permits tailgating on football game days in designated areas, during specified hours, and under the conditions outlined in this Tailgating Rules document. These rules are intended to enhance the football game day experience, promote a safe campus environment, and preserve the beauty of the campus.

### **Locations**

Tailgating is permitted only in designated surface parking lots. Green space within a parking lot or within 15 feet of a parking lot may be used for tailgating by the participants assigned to that parking lot. The following is the list of designated tailgating lots.

#### East Bank

- Gopher Lot
- Minnesota Lot
- Victory Lot
- Gold Lot
- Maroon Lot
- Lot 33
- Discovery Lot
- Ski-U-Mah Lot
- Northstar Lot
- Band Practice Lot
- Lot 37
- Lot C12
- Lot C50
- Lot C51
- Lot C55
- Lot C56
- Lot C58

#### West Bank

- Lot C86
- Lot C88
- Lot C89
- Lot 94

#### St. Paul

- Lot S101
- Lot SC102

- Lot S104
- Lot SC151
- State Fair Lots

Tailgating is not permitted anywhere else on University of Minnesota property, including parking ramps and parking garages.

### **Hours**

Tailgating is restricted to the following times.

- Tailgating may **begin** six hours before game time, but no earlier than 7 a.m.
- Tailgating must **end** four hours after game time, or 12 midnight, whichever comes first.

When tailgating hours end, all tailgating supplies must be properly disposed of or stored in a vehicle.

Vehicles may remain in a parking lot until the lot closes at midnight.

### **Activities and Equipment**

The following items and activities are allowed in tailgate lots:

- Gas grills with a maximum propane cylinder size of 20 pounds
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons of legal drinking age, and in conformance with all applicable state laws, city ordinances, and University policies
- Portable outdoor furniture
- Tents and awnings that do not block adjacent parking spaces, impede drive aisles, or require the use of stakes
- Portable generators

The following items and activities are not allowed in tailgate lots:

- Kegs, party balls, drinking game accessories, and large quantity or common source containers of alcoholic beverages
- Glass containers of any kind, including bottles and cups
- Open fires fueled by charcoal, wood, or other combustible materials of any kind
- Disruptive music or noise
- Couches or other large furniture items
- Promotional or marketing activities without appropriate authorization from the University
- Sale of products, food, or beverages except as authorized by the University
- Occupying more than one parking space
- Saving a parking space for someone else
- Obstructing adjacent parking spaces and drive aisles

### **Conduct**

Tailgaters must:

- Respect other persons and property

- Properly dispose of trash
- Cooperate with law enforcement authorities and University personnel
- Not unlawfully possess, distribute, or use any drug or controlled substance
- Comply with all applicable University, city, state, and federal rules, policies, ordinances, and laws

### **Consequences for Violations**

Violating these tailgating rules (or other applicable laws, ordinances, and policies) may result in:

- Fines
- Loss of season ticket, parking, or tailgating privileges
- Removal from campus
- Disciplinary action under the Student Conduct Code (students only)

### **Questions?**

For additional information, call Scott Ellison, associate athletic director for facilities and operations, 612-624-4497.