

Re: Roof Depot

The Hub Bicycle Co-op stands in solidarity with the residents of Little Earth and with East Phillips Neighborhood residents and organizers, in opposition to demolition of the Roof Depot, and in opposition to the utilization of the Roof Depot property in any capacity by the City of Minneapolis. As lovers of bicycles, the natural resources in our cities, and environmentally-friendly transportation, we do not want to see our neighborhood polluted further by the release of poisonous arsenic into the air, or the additional fossil fuel emissions and automobile waste that the city plans to bring to the Roof Depot site.

The Hub Bike Co-op fully supports the reclamation of this land by the hands of the Indigenous and Native peoples, Phillips Neighborhood residents, Little Earth residents, and allies organizing towards the vision of a collective communal hub for diverse arts, music, and folk traditions, sustainable urban farming, childcare, and a deeper awareness of steps we can all take towards stewarding, loving, and enjoying our planet Earth. This neighborhood and community have been disproportionately impacted by environmental racism, irresponsible and negligent industrial development, and economic suppression for far too long. It's high time that the people actually living and working here had a say in how their neighborhoods are being changed!

The Hub's business model is predicated on the power of people working together towards a common cause of interdependence, environmental awareness, and the reciprocal sustenance and improvement of quality of life . . . FOR ALL PEOPLES. We want to see this vision reflected in more like-minded organizations forming in our neighborhood, and we want to see this vision grow through business partnerships, solidarity, and reciprocity. The development of the Roof Depot into a communal hub stands to benefit about 7.5k community members in the immediate and surrounding neighborhoods, and that's not even counting the positive impacts on local wildlife, sacred waterways, and ecosystems. If there's one thing we've learned in our 20 years of cooperative business ownership, it's that when the individuals in our community are doing better, We as a Collective all do better.

We urge our staff, owners, patrons, and neighbors in the Longfellow Business Association to donate what resources they can to Defend the Depot and East Phillips Urban Farm. From volunteering time with a local foodshare or distribution program, to showing up in-person and holding space for land protectors, to donating supplies and funds, to sharing the story of this struggle far and wide on social media and with friends/neighbors/family members, to leveraging access and privilege to participate in NO DEMO efforts in legislative contexts – every little bit of our collective strengths and privileges that can be leveraged to preserve and transform this site will matter in this fight. Join us, and make a stand against the City of Minneapolis' racism, injustice, and flagrant disregard for environmental conservation.

In Cooperation and Solidarity,
The Hub Bicycle Cooperative