

Minneapolis
City of Lakes

Office of the Mayor

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Mayor

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January 12, 2012

Governor Mark Dayton
130 State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Julie Rosen
322 State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Morrie Lanning
379 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Dayton, Senator Rosen and Representative Lanning:

We are pleased to present Downtown East, the site of the current Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome, as our preferred location for a new multi-purpose "People's Stadium" where the Minnesota Vikings will play its home games.

While we are open to and engaged in continued discussions with the Vikings on the Linden Avenue site, we believe that Downtown East remains the best, lowest-cost option for a new Vikings stadium. In 2003, the Minneapolis City Council endorsed the Metrodome site as the City's preferred site for a new stadium. That continues to be our preferred location.

Minneapolis' Downtown East proposal is the best option for Vikings fans, the Minnesota Vikings, other collegiate, amateur and civic users and Minnesota taxpayers:

- **The best location.** Downtown East is a superior location to Arden Hills: it provides the widest variety of affordable amenities to the public and presents the fewest impediments to immediate development.
- **No new taxes.** Minneapolis has a workable financing plan, valid for either Minneapolis site, that uses existing taxes to fund a portion of stadium operating costs and finance a portion of capital costs. In other words, our plan relies on no new taxes.
- **Cash on the table.** The Minneapolis proposal is the only one that puts immediate cash on the table.

- **Secures three statewide facilities at once.** In addition to providing for a true “People’s Stadium” for at least the next three decades, our plan also secures the long-term future of two other revenue-generating facilities of statewide significance: Target Center and the Minneapolis Convention Center.

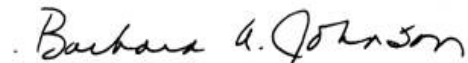
We welcome the opportunity to discuss our proposal with you and other legislative leaders. We look forward to approval of a bill by the Legislature in the 2012 session that will result in a new People’s Stadium on the Downtown East site.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mayor R.T. Rybak
City of Minneapolis



Barbara Johnson
City Council President