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RECEPTION HONORING
COMMISSIONER AND MRS. LEN LEVINE
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
DECEMBER 13, 1971

LEN LEVINE TYPIFIES THE ENERGETIC, AGGRESSIVE, AND
DEDICATED YOUNG LEADERSHIP THAT IS NEEDED IN PUBLIC LIFE
TODAY. HIS PRIMARY QUALIFICATION FOR PUBLIC OFFICE IS THE
SAME THING THAT HAS MOTIVATED HIS SELFLESS DEVOTION TO PUBLIC
SERVICE. THAT IS HIS QUALITY OF PUBLIC CONCERN.

LEN HAS ALWAYS SHOWN CONCERN FOR HIS CITY, CONCERN
FOR ITS PROBLEMS, CONCERN FOR ITS PEOPLE, AND ABOVE ALL,
CONCERN FOR THE FUTURE QUALITY OF LIFE.

HE HAS GONE OUT TO THE PEOPLE -- THE YOUNG, THE POOR,
THE HOMEOWNERS, THE ELDERLY, THE SMALL BUSINESSMAN. HE HAS
GONE TO THEM PERSONALLY SEEKING THEIR PROBLEMS AND NEEDS AND
RESPONDING. HIS RESPONSE HAS BEEN ONE OF ACTION DIRECTED AT
THESE PROBLEMS OF URBAN LIFE.

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LEN HAS EARNED THE RESPECT AND ADMIRATION OF THE PEOPLE. HE HAS EARNED THIS THROUGH HIS SINGLE-HANDED EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE LOT OF OUR SENIOR CITIZENS IN THEIR PROBLEMS WITH PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION. LEN WORKED TO GET THOSE BUSES TO THE DOORS OF THE HIGH RISES. HE WORKED WITH GROUPS OF ELDERLY TO GAIN REDUCTION ON TRANSIT FARES.

18 months LEN IN HIS 18 MONTHS IN PUBLIC OFFICE, LEN HAS DEMONSTRATED INNOVATIVE, IMAGINATIVE, AND CREATIVE THINKING ON SOME OF OUR MOST PRESSING URBAN PROBLEMS. HIS VISION AND CONCERN ARE REFLECTED IN HIS UNION DEPOT PROPOSALS. HIS IDEAS FOR INNER CITY MASS TRANSIT AND COMMUTER RAIL SERVICE. THIS IS THE PROGRESSIVE AND FRESH THINKING THAT WE NEED IN CITY GOVERNMENT.

LEN WHEN LEN LEVINE SOUGHT THIS OFFICE, HE PLEDGED TO MAKE GOVERNMENT MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE PEOPLE BY BRINGING IT TO THE PEOPLE AND INVOLVING PEOPLE IN THE AFFAIRS AND DECISIONS OF THEIR GOVERNMENT.

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HE HAS KEPT THAT PLEDGE THROUGH HIS MANY NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT MEETINGS WITH THE PEOPLE. I THINK IT IS COMMENDABLE THAT IN THESE TIMES WHEN MANY PEOPLE EXPRESS A LACK OF FAITH IN THE INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT, A YOUNG MAN LIKE LEN LEVINE IS A TRUSTED AND DEDICATED ELECTED OFFICIAL.

LEN HAS BROUGHT YOUNG PEOPLE INTO CITY HALL AND INVOLVED THEM IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT. HIS ADVISORY BOARD OF YOUNG PEOPLE IS A FIRST IN THE NATION INNOVATION TO GIVE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN ACCESS TO AN ELECTED OFFICIAL.

LEN HAS SHOWN THE AGGRESSIVE AND FORTHRIGHT LEADERSHIP NEEDED IN THESE TIMES. AS AN ADMINISTRATOR, LEN HAS BEEN A TRUE LEADER -- RESPONSIBLE AND OF THE HIGHEST INTEGRITY. THE PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS COME FIRST WITH LEN LEVINE.

MRS. HUMPHREY AND I ARE HAPPY TO COME AND WELCOME ALL OF YOU AND JOIN YOU IN HONORING LEN AND CAROL TONIGHT.



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