

Foreword From Mayor



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

December 2011

The Mississippi River has shaped my life. I grew up on the bluffs carved by its waters, learning the importance of nature and the fun of outdoor recreation. I've raised my family on these same bluffs and have shared with them the values the River taught me – take care of what you have, take part in all it offers, and share it with others.

Saint Paul has been blessed with more riverfront park land than any other major city along the Mississippi River. This rich legacy will be carried into the future with the establishment of the *Great River Passage Master Plan*.

Over the past year, this new master plan has been shaped by one of the most comprehensive community involvement processes Saint Paul has ever undertaken. Through the creativity and dedication of City Council members, neighborhood groups, river users, environmental organizations, concerned citizens, city staff and national experts; a vision has been created that will transform Saint Paul in profound ways.

The Master Plan's guiding principles - to be More Natural, More Urban and More Connected - represent a grand vision for unifying the entire length of Saint Paul's riverfront. This plan sets the stage for natural spaces, recreation areas, ecological restoration and economic vitality while connecting the City and its people to Saint Paul's unique Mississippi River resources. It is up to all of us – elected officials, business leaders, the philanthropic community, neighborhood groups and more – to ensure this plan becomes reality.

Please join me in support of this exciting vision for Saint Paul's riverfront.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher B. Coleman".

Christopher B. Coleman
Mayor, City of Saint Paul