



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CHRISTOPHER B. COLEMAN
Mayor

September 18, 2012

Dobson West
President
The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra
The Historic Hamm Building
408 Saint Peter Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102-1497

Brad C. Eggen
President
Twin Cities Musicians Union
American Federation of Musicians Local 30-73
708 1st Street N., Suite 243
Minneapolis MN 55401-1145

Dear Mr. West and Mr. Eggen,

I am aware that Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, based in downtown Saint Paul, is currently renegotiating a contract with its employees. It is my understanding the negotiation process has broken down and I am writing to encourage you to continue with a constructive negotiation with the musicians union. Saint Paul has a long history of peaceful labor relations and we expect that to continue.

Cooperative labor-management relations are a part of our civic identity. In *Claiming the City*, Mary Lethert Wingerd writes about the aftermath of the Great Northern Strike of 1894; "Thus the stage was set for a long era of compromise between business and organized labor. Though their interests were not identical, they had a common stake in the economic well-being of the city, and when they came to the bargaining table, both sides understood that compromise was essential to keep the city's increasingly precarious economy intact."