



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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Dear Colleagues,

Six years ago I asked the Saint Paul Planning Commission to set a vision for how the Central Corridor should grow and change over the next 25-30 years in response to light rail transit. Reflecting a wide-ranging community discussion, they envisioned a revitalized corridor that has stronger businesses, more vibrant neighborhoods, and is a more beautiful urban place. Today, construction of the line is over halfway complete—and new developments are beginning to take shape up and down its length.

More importantly, the many separate initiatives designed to maximize the Corridor's potential are starting to link together in significant ways. The *Central Corridor Development Strategy* and related station area plans were adopted as elements of the Comprehensive Plan. The zoning code was extensively updated to better align with transit-oriented development needs. Now being layered on top of the new zoning is the *Central Corridor Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Plan*. When completed, this plan will provide a critical tool for creating the vibrant, green and sustainable corridor envisioned in the station area plans—while improving the quality of the Mississippi River. By creatively looking at ways to share stormwater responsibilities, we hope to also introduce new trees, new open space, art, and a host of environmental and social benefits called for in the *Development Strategy*.

Regardless of what department or agency you may represent, your participation in the development of the *Central Corridor Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Plan* is extremely valuable. Light rail transit is giving rise to an unprecedented transformation of the Central Corridor. The new transit-oriented developments, both constructed and planned, and the related investments in the public realm—remarkable streets and distinguishing places—are truly exciting to consider.

Achieving our collective vision, however, requires an unprecedented level of collaboration. Thank you for your participation to this point. I look forward to hearing your final recommendations.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman
Mayor