



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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February 14, 2013

Anne Field (Como Friends Board Chair)

Jackie Sticha (Como Friends President)

Dear Ms. Sticha and Ms. Field,

This April, Como Park Zoo and Conservatory will unveil The Ordway Gardens, a new wing to the historic Marjorie McNeely Conservatory. This project, funded entirely by private contributions, was made possible by the incredible generosity of Saint Paul's residents and supporters of the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. Como is the last completely free metro zoo and botanical garden in the country, and without so much support, it may not exist. I wanted to take a moment and send you this letter of thanks to you both as well as Como Friends for your continued support of Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. Without the funding from a successful Capital Campaign and this year's annual gift of \$658,397.11, Como would not be the same.

Como Park Zoo and Conservatory has been a place of fascination, learning and fun for generations of families from across Minnesota. Thanks in large part to Como Friends, that experience is getting better each year—from the Polar Bear Odyssey exhibit to The Ordway Gardens, Como Park Zoo and Conservatory's activities, exhibits and educational opportunities continue to improve.

An ongoing partnership between the City of Saint Paul and Como Friends is critical to Como Park Zoo and Conservatory's continued success, and your efforts are truly valued.

With increasingly challenging budget situations, our work at the City of Saint Paul has not gotten any easier. Regardless, 2012 was a great year, and 2013 will be even more exciting. I look forward to working together and seeing these new projects take form. Thanks to your staff and Board of Directors for all your work, and congratulations on the successful campaign.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman

Mayor