



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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September 30, 2013

Mr. Mark Doneux, Administrator  
Capitol Region Watershed District  
1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4  
Saint Paul, MN 55108

RE: Green Line Green Infrastructure Project

Dear Mark:

I am very pleased to support the Green Line Green Infrastructure Project as a finalist for the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts' 2013 Project of the Year. This project is a strong symbol of our community's vision for the Green Line corridor: vibrant, green and sustainable.

This initiative resulted in an exemplary multi-agency partnership to design and construct a variety of green infrastructure features. This collaborative approach was essential, given the unique complexities of light rail construction. Collaboration was also key because of the innovative nature of the practices themselves. From a 5-mile tree trench system to infiltration systems and boulevard-scale stormwater planters, the process of design and construction forged new relationships among those involved: Metropolitan Council, Ramsey County, City of Saint Paul, and Capitol Region Watershed District.

It is gratifying to know that this comprehensive approach provides treatment for stormwater runoff generated from 111 acres of impervious surface. Saint Paul also sees a host of other public benefits. Positive outcomes include creatively ensuring survivability for over 1,000 new street trees, reducing the urban heat island effect and incorporating public art during design and construction to create a truly livable urban space.

The Mississippi River is a national treasure. Community members can be proud to know that our agencies have gone above and beyond standard practice to protect our water resources while truly enhancing neighborhood character.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman  
Mayor