



## CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

390 City Hall  
15 West Kellogg Boulevard  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Telephone: 651-266-8510  
Facsimile: 651-228-8521

March 4, 2013

Sen. Dziedzic and Senate Tax Committee Members:

I am writing to support SF 13, which is Ramsey and Hennepin County's efforts to re-establish the Environmental Response Fund.

The County's Environmental Response Fund (ERF) has provided critical gap funding for contaminated land cleanup in fifteen projects in the City of Saint Paul. Environmental remediation is a common need in urban infill sites, and the costs can be extensive, often making the redevelopment unfeasible. ERF helps level the playing field by reducing private investment required to bring a site to greenfield standards. Ramsey County ERF funding plays a small, but essential role in putting such sites back on the property tax rolls. Ramsey County's urban/first ring suburban core is fundamental to the economic strength of the east metro and indeed, the Twin Cities greater metropolitan region.

The City of Saint Paul ERF-assisted projects have ranged from the Maxson Steel/Dale Street Shops, now an urban industrial park with thriving businesses and over 300 jobs, to the most recent project, the redevelopment of the Schmidt Brewery. A complete list of projects is attached.

The Environmental Response Funds has proven to be an effective tool for leveraging private investment and spurring redevelopment, thereby stabilizing and preserving the economic vitality not only in our community, but also in communities throughout Ramsey County.

Thank you for your support of Senate File 13.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman

**ERF funded projects in the City of Saint Paul:**

Maxson Steel	\$1,007,000.00
Carleton Place	\$235,000.00
West Side Flats	\$300,000.00
TimberCraft Condos	\$22,360.00
Sholom	\$297,000.00
Globe	\$350,000.00
Habitat-Case	\$180,000.00
Winnipeg Apartments	\$17,382.00
Frogtown Square	\$89,969.53
3M / Beacon Bluff Parcels	\$250,000.00
Total Tool	\$40,000.00
West 7th Community Housing	\$13,737.00
Penfield	\$168,500.00
Schmidt Brewery	\$302,690.00