



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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Nov. 8, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

As Mayor of Saint Paul, I write today to support the NeighborWorks Home Partners (NWHP) proposal for *Project Reinvest: Homeownership*.

NeighborWorks Home Partners has a proven record of success in creating homeowners in Saint Paul. That record built on over thirty years of commitment to our community as a neighborhood-based lender and homeownership center, serving nearly 1,000 families a year.

Their participation in two rounds of the Wells Fargo Neighborhood LIFT down-payment assistance program has allowed hundreds of families to become homeowners in Saint Paul when that dream might otherwise have been out of reach. Since the launch of round two in June, NWHP has provided over \$400,000 in LIFT down payment assistance to new Saint Paul homeowners. In addition, NWHP has deployed another \$95,200 in compatible down payment assistance funds to Saint Paul homebuyers in targeted neighborhoods in our city.

Project Reinvest: Homeownership down-payment assistance is a critical tool for affordable and sustainable homeownership in Saint Paul, increasing access across all racial groups and reducing the homeownership gap. We support NeighborWorks Home Partners' application based on their proven success with similar programs, in which they have outperformed other markets and exceeded performance goals.

Please feel free to call Michelle Vojacek at (651)-266-6599 if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman

Mayor