



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

Office of the Mayor

Betsy Hodges
Mayor

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July 9, 2014

Executive Committee
Room 317 City Hall
350 South Fifth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55415

SUBJECT: Nomination of Craig Taylor to Director, Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) and Executive Director of Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA)

Dear Executive Committee Members;

I am submitting the name of Craig Taylor as my nomination for an appointment to the Director of Community Planning and Economic Development position for a two-year term to expire January 2, 2016 and Executive Director of the Minneapolis Community Development Agency for a two-year term to expire January 2, 2016.

The qualifications Mr. Taylor brings will advance our work not only on growing the city, but on growing the city inclusively and advancing equity. I have confidence his management skills, experience with strategic planning and history in the community will aid him in helping the city run well.

Mr. Taylor has served as the Executive Director of the Office for Business & Community Economic Development and the Business & Technology Center at the University of Minnesota for the past 12 years. Prior to that, he worked as the manager of Corporate Small Business Development at Xcel Energy.

Taylor started his career with the City of Minneapolis, managing the skills training and employment program for the Minneapolis Urban League. He then went on to work for four years as the city's Interim Director for the Office of Women & Minority Business Enterprise.

Taylor has served as a board member for a number of organizations and non-profits, including: Board of Directors of the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce; Vikings Stadium Authority-Implementation Committee; Foundation Vice President of the National Association of Minority Contractors; Minnesota Business League Board of Directors. He's also received numerous awards, including the Minnesota Business Journal Business Advocate of the Year in 2010. He holds a Master's Degree in Public Affairs and a Bachelor's Degree in Urban Government, both from the University of Minnesota.

Upon your concurrence with this appointment, I request that you forward my nomination to the Community Development and Regulatory Services Committee for a public hearing and City Council action.

Sincerely,

Mayor Betsy Hodges
City of Minneapolis