

By Ostrow, Johnson, Lane and Niziolek

**Approving implementation principles for a new ballpark.**

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis has an interest in ongoing discussions and decisions about professional sports facilities and has been the home of the Minnesota Twins for over 20 years; and

Whereas, on December 29, 2003, the City Council adopted a resolution adopting a policy on a new ballpark that, among other matters, identified the Minneapolis Warehouse District Ballpark site as the best possible location for a new ballpark because of its proximity to existing public infrastructure (including the TAD and other public Ramps, Hiawatha LRT, and North Star Commuter Rail), its ability to contribute to and support transit and transportation corridors and ridership, and its proximity to the center of the metropolitan fan base; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis recognizes the need to maximize public infrastructure investments, address potential neighborhood impacts productively, promote transit capacity, and promote good urban and pedestrian form as a ballpark and related infrastructure are designed and constructed which were incorporated into a proposal to the Governor's Stadium Screening Committee in January of 2004; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis recognizes the need to work cooperatively and collaboratively with Hennepin County, other public agencies and other ballpark stakeholders on all matters related to a new ballpark in order to protect and promote the City's interests;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the Legislature must complete the Biennial Budget and fully fund other essential legislative priorities, including transit, housing, public safety, education, and the environment, before making final decisions involving a new ballpark.

Be It Further Resolved that the City of Minneapolis opposes the Hennepin County legislation for a new ballpark unless the following principles are honored in the legislation:

- No negative impact on the City's general fund or the City's capacity to deliver basic services.
- No imposition of costs upon the City for infrastructure improvements and reimbursement of the City for impacts on City services related to the design, construction and operation of a new ballpark.

- No preemption of the City's charter provision adopted by the voters of Minneapolis limiting City funding for a sports facility.
- Preservation of the City's authority for local taxes of general applicability including the city's entertainment tax.
- Payment of fair market value for any City owned land conveyed for the ballpark.
- Funding for libraries and youth activities within Hennepin County as originally provided in the Hennepin County resolution of support for the proposal.
- Recognition of the City's zoning and land use review authority through the establishment of an implementation committee similar to those created for the central library and the convention center.
- Supports the planning for and building of an intermodal station on and around the ballpark site that will enhance transit connections between light rail, commuter rail, busses, bicyclists, pedestrians and potential high speed rail and that will be consistent with the City's comprehensive plan.
- Provide for community ownership as a right of first refusal in the event of any future sale of the team.
- Community benefit provisions consistent with the accompanying resolution.

Be It Further Resolved that the City of Minneapolis direct its staff to work closely with Hennepin County, other public agencies and other ballpark stakeholders on all matters related to a new ballpark as it is being planned, designed and constructed.