



Request for City Council Committee Action From the City Coordinator

Date: November 19, 2002

To: The Honorable Scott Benson, Chair, Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Subject: City of Minneapolis Sports Facility Policy

Recommendation

Approve the following City of Minneapolis Sports Facility Policy:

1. The facility must be built to leverage existing public infrastructure investments, including Light Rail Transit, parking facilities, water and sewer lines, and communications.
2. The facility must be located in an area that makes most business sense for the team (examples: access to transit, parking, restaurants, employees, hotels, and entertainment).
3. The team must agree to remain in Minneapolis for *at least* the duration of the financing agreements.

Previous Directives

Resolution 200R-207 (June 25, 1999): "Whereas the City's financial contribution to the project [sports stadium] shall not exceed \$10 million for site assembly or related expenditures."

Prepared or Submitted by John Moir, City Coordinator

Presenters in Committee John Moir, City Coordinator

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information Attached

Major league sports contribute significantly to the City's position as the economic and cultural center of the State. Professional sports teams benefit the local economy by generating jobs and entertainment, attracting visitors from around the State and Upper Midwest, and creating a national identity for Minneapolis. The City of Minneapolis supports our professional sports teams and looks forward to their continued success in the urban core.

At the same time, the increasing pressure on the City to "do more with less" hinders the City's ability to finance any new sports facilities without clear direction. Given the complex financial environment and the need to use scarce public dollars efficiently and effectively, the City proposes the following conditions for supporting the development of new sports facilities in Minneapolis:

1. The facility must be built to leverage existing public infrastructure investments, including Light Rail Transit, parking facilities, water and sewer lines, and communications.
2. The facility must be located in an area that makes most business sense for the team (examples: access to transit, parking, restaurants, employees, hotels, and entertainment).
3. The team must agree to remain in Minneapolis for *at least* the duration of the financing agreements.

The goal of this policy is to establish a set of criteria for the City to use when evaluating any stadium legislation or proposals. The conditions outlined in this policy protect the City's investment in professional sports and ensure that the City's infrastructure investments are fully maximized.