



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Community Planning & Economic Development

Date: July 23, 2007
To: Council Member Scott Benson, Health, Energy & Environment Committee
Referral to: Council Member Betsy Hodges, Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Subject: **Supporting the City of Minneapolis as a Workforce Service Area**

Recommendation: That a resolution be approved declaring that the City of Minneapolis should remain its own Workforce Service Area.

Previous Directives: None

Prepared by: Deb Bahr-Helgen, Director, METP 673-6226

Approved by: Charles T. Lutz, Deputy Director, CPED

Presenters in Committee: Deb Bahr-Helgen, METP

Reviews

- Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval Date N/A
- Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval Date N/A

Financial Impact

- No financial impact

Community Impact

- City Goals – One Minneapolis
- Living Wage/Business Subsidy Agreement Yes No

Supporting Information

The City of Minneapolis is designated as a Workforce Service Area (WSA). There are 16 WSAs in the State. In 2007, the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) intends to reconsider the local area (geographic) designation of Workforce Service Areas. The State wants to listen to a variety of interests and study the appropriate alignment of State and federal resources to maximize its ability to build and support strong regional economies. The process will include "listening sessions" across the State with local elected officials, educational institutions, and economic developers to gather information on the opportunities for aligning workforce and economic development, and educational resources, in the most-effective, cost-efficient way to serve all Minnesotans. The State intends to take into account all input before any decision is made to re-designate.

City of Minneapolis staff and members of the Minneapolis Private Industry/Workforce Council will attend and participate in these listening sessions. The proposed Council Resolution is intended as a formal statement supporting the City of Minneapolis remaining as its own WSA in the event of any proposed re-designation by the State.