



Community Planning and Economic Development Department

News Release

Contact: Krista Bergert, (612) 673-5015

Minneapolis City Goals: A Safe Place to Call Home ▫ Jobs & Economic Vitality ▫ Eco-Focused ▫ Livable Communities, Healthy Lives ▫ Many People, One Minneapolis ▫ A City That Works

City of Minneapolis Calls for Landscape Architecture Design Services for Peavey Plaza Revitalization

August 10, 2010 (MINNEAPOLIS) – The City of Minneapolis, in cooperation with the Minnesota Orchestral Association (MOA), is calling for Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for landscape architecture design services for the revitalization of Peavey Plaza, on Nicollet Mall, in downtown Minneapolis. The purpose of the call is to solicit qualifications from interested landscape architecture firms.

The City and the MOA are collaborating in the revitalization of Peavey Plaza and Orchestra Hall, which are adjacent to one another and together comprise a full city block, as a single project. The MOA was awarded \$16 million in bond funding from the Minnesota State Legislature during the 2010 session; \$2 million of the funding is earmarked for Peavey Plaza. Estimated project cost is \$5-\$6 million. The City and MOA will be working together to secure the remaining funds for development of Peavey Plaza.

The plaza is owned by the City of Minneapolis and managed and maintained by the Department of Public Works. Peavey Plaza has suffered from a lack of investment over the years and modifications that have compromised the original design. Because of features inherent to its original design, including the large below-grade area and walls and fountains that obscure sight lines, the plaza presents unique challenges in terms of accessibility and public safety. As the pumps and pipes that serve the fountains and pools have deteriorated and aged, Peavey Plaza has become increasingly costly

for the City to operate and maintain. The fountains no longer function as they did when they were new.

More information

Information can be found at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/docs/RFQ2010_PeaveyPlaza.pdf.

Qualifications are **due on or before Friday, August 20, 2010 at 2:30pm**.

Phase I of the project, which includes concept design and budget development, will get underway in January 2011; construction is to be completed by the fall of 2012.

More on Peavey Plaza

Designed by renowned landscape architect M. Paul Friedberg and completed in 1975, Peavey Plaza is a modernist public park that takes up the western half of the block, bounded by 12th Street, Marquette Avenue, 11th Street, and Nicollet Mall. The plaza is used for orchestral and other public events although visual and physical connections between the hall and the plaza are limited. The western side of Orchestra Hall faces Peavey Plaza with administrative backstage functions on the lower level and offices above fronting on the plaza's sunken reflecting pool.

More on Orchestra Hall

The MOA retained the Toronto-based firm of Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg (KPMB) as architect for the \$40 million addition and renovation project. The MOA concept design for Orchestra Hall was completed in February 2010 and construction will be complete in June 2013.

###