STATE OF MINNESOTA
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JUDITH H. DUTCHER
STATE AUDITOR

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Mayor and Members of the City Council
City of Minneapolis

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the City of Minneapolis, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 1997, as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the City's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the General Agency Reserve Fund System within the Community Development Agency Enterprise Fund, which statements represent 20 percent of the assets and six percent of the operating revenues of the enterprise fund type. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the General Agency Reserve Fund System within the Community Development Agency Enterprise Fund, is based solely upon the report of the other auditors.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit and the report of the other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the City of Minneapolis as of December 31, 1997, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its proprietary fund types for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as whole. The combining and individual fund and account group financial statements and supplementary information listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the City of Minneapolis. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we will issue our report dated April 29, 1998, on our consideration of the City's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants.

Judith H. Dutcher

JUDITH H. DUTCHER
STATE AUDITOR

Greg H

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

April 29, 1998