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Sent: Monday, August 10, 2015 1:01 PM

To: *CI-StPaul_Mayor; Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul_Ward1; Xiong, Mai Chong (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul_Ward5; O'Brien, Kim (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul_Ward2; Lindgren, Patricia (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul_Ward4; Henningson, Samantha (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul_Ward7; Biales, Ellen (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul_Ward6; Renstrom, Scott (CI-StPaul); Kantner, Libby (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Please vote to support our parks and trails on the 12th.

Dear Mayor Coleman and Councilmembers,

I urge you to vote for a 12% park dedication on August 12th. The parks and green space in St. Paul is why I chose to live and invest in St. Paul. The parks and trails are the best amenity our City offers to its citizens. It contributes to health, happiness and overall satisfaction of St. Paul residents.

Your predecessors valued our parks and trails and that is why we have such a robust park system. I hope you will do the same.

The 12% dedication will not scare developers or investors away from St. Paul as alleged. Instead it will encourage high quality investment and development by partners who are dedicated to St. Paul and can support the projects they propose.

Within our park system, there is significant room for improvement. Many of our parks and trails are lacking in maintenance, and the 12% dedication could remedy this situation.

The 12% dedication is especially important as the City faces its largest development opportunity of the past 100 years--the Ford site. The parkland dedication will play a large role in the City's ability to set aside green space on this property. Reducing the parkland dedication before this development occurs will be a huge mistake that will have a very real effect on the Ford development and the surrounding neighborhoods.

Thanks for your support of our parks and trails and the future of our city.

Regards,
Amy Schwarz, J.D.

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