

**From:** [Jason Peterson](#)  
**To:** [\\*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#); [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment for 2021 City of St. Paul Budget  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 1, 2020 9:50:55 AM  
**Attachments:** [St. Paul 2021 Budget Comment - NWHP.pdf](#)

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December 1, 2020

Dear Saint Paul City Councilmembers,

As a non-profit partner and homeownership center celebrating 40 years of partnering with the City of St. Paul to provide the full gamut of homeownership services to families all across St. Paul, we would like to thank you for the on-going support of this critical work in our community. While we understand there are many challenges and pressures related to the City's budget this year, we would encourage you to continue to prioritize supporting access to fair and affordable housing as this is a foundational need for families all across St. Paul.

Specific areas we would encourage you to maintain funding include:

- Supporting investments in the recently created affordable housing trust fund including, specifically, funding for development of affordable housing, supporting community land trusts and providing funding for down payment assistance to help families buy a home.
- Supporting the Capital Improvement Budget process including, specifically, supporting community partners in providing critical program such as home repairs and housing development to ensure families can live in safe and affordable housing.
- Supporting IT infrastructure updates to ensure PED can remain in compliance with contract and grant requirements and can work with partners easily to ensure their compliance with these requirements.

Community partners have been the key to many of the successes in the housing space in St. Paul. It is critical that the City of St. Paul continues to leverage these partnerships, especially in light of the budget constraints facing the City at this time. We would strongly encourage you to continue to foster and grow these partnerships and the many resources and areas of expertise they bring as we seek a common goal of fair and equitable housing for all St. Paul residents.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any question/thoughts/ideas/concerns at [jpeterson@nwhomepartners.org](mailto:jpeterson@nwhomepartners.org) or 651-348-5072.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason Peterson  
Executive Director  
NeighborWorks Home Partners

**Jason Peterson | Chief Executive Officer**

## NeighborWorks Home Partners

533 Dale Street North, Saint Paul, MN 55103

651.348.5072 (direct) 651.292.8710 (main) 651.292.0473 (fax)

[www.nwhomepartners.org](http://www.nwhomepartners.org)



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