



3/9/22

Dear Sen. Bakk and Rep. Lee,

On behalf of our Regional Council and our 28,000 members, we support the Saint Paul Port Authority's bonding request for the Hillcrest redevelopment site. This redevelopment opportunity is a great way for the eastside of Saint Paul to see improvements in housing, jobs, transportation as well as green space.

We are supportive of this project because it is good for Saint Paul, the region, the state, and jobs for our members. The bonding request along with the public investment will hopefully catalyze an additional private investment in the amount of over \$217 million which will lead to thousands of construction jobs for our members and future members.

Despite our frustrations with the city of Saint Paul for its handling of the issue of rent control, we remain optimistic that the worst elements of the policy that was passed by voters in 2021 will be fixed as soon as possible. We have received some assurances that rent control will be dealt with in a way that will facilitate the sort of housing and mixed-use development that will give residents jobs, housing options, and members an opportunity to make a living building in the region.

We are urging you to support the Saint Paul Port Authority's request of \$12 million for the 2022 capital investment bill and we will work hard to make sure a sizable bonding bill with an emphasis on jobs is passed and signed into law.

Fraternally,

Adam Duininck  
Director of Government Affairs  
North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters