

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

LOCAL NO. 49, 49A, 49B, 49C, 49D, 49E, 49L
MINNESOTA • NORTH DAKOTA • SOUTH DAKOTA

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Senator Bakk and Representative Lee:

On behalf of International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49, and our over 14,000 members, we wanted to offer our support for the Saint Paul Port Authority's bonding request for the Hillcrest golf course redevelopment project.

It is our understanding that the request is for \$12M of an almost \$47M public infrastructure and redevelopment plan. Redevelopment of the former Hillcrest Golf Course offers a transformative opportunity to bring much needed housing, jobs, infrastructure, and green space to Saint Paul's Greater Eastside.

All infrastructure and vertical construction projects will be subject to project labor agreements and compliance with Davis Bacon Act. We expect the infrastructure investment to create 420 union jobs. Another 1,810 will be added during vertical construction phase with a \$217M investment. If the project moves forward with a district energy system, they anticipate adding another 300 jobs for a total of 2,530 good paying union jobs. Operating Engineers would be involved in the site preparation work as well as construction of roads and other infrastructure components.

Once the project is completed, it is our understanding that the light industrial portion of the development will create approximately 1,000 jobs with good paying wages, 1,000 housing units with a balance of low, medium, and high-density housing, and usable great space of parks and trails.

IUOE Local 49 is proud to support this project and want to thank you for consideration of its inclusion in the 2022 bonding bill.

Jason George
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