



Executive Department

March 15, 2023

MAYOR

MARY SUPPLE

Dear Capital Investment Committee Members,

CITY COUNCIL

SEAN HAYFORD OLEARY

SHARON CHRISTENSEN

SIMON TRAUTMANN

BEN WHALEN

The City of Richfield is excited to express our support for Minnesota Independence College and Community's (MICC) efforts to provide housing, career, and social development opportunities to individuals affected by autism spectrum disorder and learning differences. We welcome the continued success and growth of the MICC program in the City of Richfield and support their efforts to provide sustainable independence for their graduates.

CITY MANAGER

KATIE RODRIGUEZ

We are happy to support partner projects across the region that assist our residents. MICC has been an important part of the Richfield community since its founding in 1996, providing vocational and life training services to young adults on the autism spectrum or with similar learning differences. MICC is outgrowing its current facility located within a Richfield apartment complex and is seeking a permanent home nearby for its offices and classrooms, as well as housing for program graduates and others in need of affordable housing.

In Minnesota, autism is one of the fastest growing disabilities within the educational system. From 2009 – 2020, the percentage of students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) was up 138% (MN Dept. Of Education Data). Once students age out of the public school system at age 21, there are very few options for adults who need more support and guidance. The MICC project offers a unique opportunity to holistically support this learning community.

The City of Richfield submits this letter, along with Resolution No. 11871 and HRA Resolution No. 1399, to demonstrate our support of MICC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary B. Supple".

Mary Supple
Mayor

JU:ms

Enclosures (2)