



To: Sen. Bakk and Rep. Lee  
From: Tom Dicklich  
Date: February 9, 2022  
Subject: Support for Saint Paul Port Authority's Hillcrest Bonding Request - \$12M

Sen. Bakk and Rep. Lee

On behalf of the Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council, we would like to support the Saint Paul Port Authority's bonding request for the Hillcrest golf course redevelopment project. 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.

Union Jobs for Infrastructure and Vertical Construction:

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 we move forward with a district energy system, we anticipate adding another 300 union jobs for a total of 2,530.

Hillcrest project by the numbers: Once the project is completed:

1000 Jobs - The addition of a light industrial business park will bring approximately 1,000 living wage jobs to the neighborhood.

1,000 Housing Units: A mix of low, medium, and high-density housing options will add 1,000 new housing units to Saint Paul's Greater Eastside. Affordable housing is a key component of this plan.

Green Space, Parks and Trails: The plan calls for a 5-acre park and additional nodes that will be activated as outdoor space for residents.

Carbon Free Community: Every decision we make at the Hillcrest site will be done through the lens of environmental sustainability. In our quest to create a carbon-free community, with the first LEED for Communities Platinum certification in the world, we will do all we can ensure natural resources are not depleted in the process. Key features currently being discussed include rooftop solar, geothermal energy, and best-in-class storm management systems.

We are very excited to support this project and want to thank you for consideration of its inclusion in the 2022 bonding bill.

Sincerely,

Tom Dicklich  
Executive Director