



City of Rochester
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February 29, 2022

Chair Paul Marquart
Chair, House Taxes Committee
MN House of Representatives
597 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Marquart:

The City of Rochester writes in support of HF 3688 (Rep. Youakim), a bipartisan bill that would extend the Historic Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit program (Minn. Stat. 290.0681) beyond the current sunset of 2022.

The Rochester City Council adopted as legislative priority again for the 2022 Legislative Session that supports “incentives to encourage reinvestment in historic properties through tools such as... the extension of State’s Historic Tax Credit program.”

We are grateful for the work of the Taxes committees last year to extend the program another year. As you are aware, potential properties in Rochester would be impacted absent further extension and legislative action. There are future benefits of this program for communities and the economy of Minnesota. The city appreciates the program’s goals of attracting capital to historic rehabilitation projects that help stimulate local economies.

The Rochester community has benefited from businesses that have utilized the program in the past to revitalize commercial buildings in the city. Utilizing existing buildings also relate to the city’s sustainability goals, as the most sustainable building is the one that is already built and renovations to existing structure minimizes the additional carbon footprint of concrete and other impacts from demolition and construction waste materials.

Thank you for your work and consideration of this economic development tool for historic properties in Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Brooke Carlson
City Council President, City of Rochester

Alison Zelms
City Administrator, City of Rochester

CC: Chair Cheryl Youakim, House Property Taxes Division
Representative Tina Liebling
Representative Liz Boldon
Representative Nels Pierson
Representative Duane Quam
Rochester City Council

