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*sent to: Anoka County  
Dakota County  
Sen. Anna Rest  
Rep. Mike Freiberg  
Rep. Lyndon Carlson*

April 20, 2016

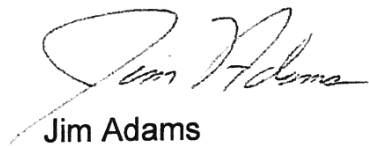
To Whom It May Concern:

Please let this letter serve as notice that the undersigned members of the Crystal City Council support the Twin Cities' Local Government Coalition's principles of reform for the Metropolitan Council, as outlined below.

- Regional planning and local government cooperation is vital to the continued success of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area.
- The Metropolitan Council is, by statute, the regional planning agency for the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area, with broad authority, including the ability to levy taxes, charge fees and set regional policy.
- Cities and counties are the entities most directly affected by policies and financial decisions of the Metropolitan Council, making them the primary constituents of the Metropolitan Council.
- The Metropolitan Council's scope of authority and involvement in regional issues has expanded significantly over the years.
- A governmental entity, particularly one with taxing authority, to be effective, must be credible, and responsive and accountable to those it represents
- The appointment of Metropolitan Council members resides solely with the Governor, effectively making the Governor the primary constituent of the Metropolitan Council
- Many cities and counties believe that the Metropolitan Council lacks accountability and responsiveness to them as direct constituents.
- Many cities and counties believe that the authority to impose taxes and set regional policy should be the responsibility of local government elected officials.
- Reform is necessary to ensure that the Metropolitan Council is an effective, responsive, and accountable partner for regional development and progress.
- The Metropolitan Council, due to its taxing and policy authority, should be accountable to a regional constituency of those impacted by its decisions.
- The Metropolitan Council should not operate as a state agency answerable to only one person, the Governor, as it does in its current form.

- The undersigned members of the Crystal City Council support reform of the Metropolitan Council that adheres to the following principles:
  - I. A majority of the members of the Metropolitan Council shall be elected officials, appointed from cities and counties within the region;
  - II. Metropolitan cities shall directly control the appointment process for city representatives to the Metropolitan Council;
  - III. Metropolitan counties shall directly appoint their own representatives to the Metropolitan Council;
  - IV. The terms of office for any Metropolitan Council members appointed by the Governor shall be staggered and not coterminous with the Governor;
  - V. Membership on the Metropolitan Council shall include representation from every metropolitan county government;
  - VI. The Metropolitan Council shall represent the entire region, therefore voting shall be structured based on population and incorporate a system of checks and balances.

Sincerely,



Jim Adams  
Mayor



Elizabeth Dahl  
Ward 1 Council Member



Jeff Kolb  
Ward 2 Council Member



Casey Peak  
Ward 3 Council Member



Olga Parsons  
Section II Council Member