



February 6, 2023

The Honorable Hodan Hassan
597 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Omar Fateh
Capitol Office
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3219
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative Hodan Hassan and Senator Omar Fateh,

Center for Energy and Environment is pleased to support the Sabathani Community Center's (SCC) Community Energy Project. This phase of the project will install a new district energy geothermal heat pump system for the main Sabathani building with future expansion to a new 72-unit multi-family housing being built on the Sabathani campus in 2024.

Sabathani's goal is to develop a Community Resilience Hub that supports their 87% BIPOC South Minneapolis community by securing energy for critical services such as their food shelf; providing a gathering place for times of extended power outages; dramatically reducing carbon emissions in a community that carries a heavy pollution burden; supporting workforce development for family-sustaining careers; building wealth and energy access in a community of color; and providing a demonstration site for clean-renewable energy.

CEE has been working with Sabathani Community Center (SCC) for almost three years to support their Community Revision Project that includes LED lighting upgrades, updated and energy-efficient geothermal heating and cooling systems, building insulation, a new roof, a solar PV system, a building automation system (BAS), and the community resiliency microgrid with back up battery energy storage systems that will be implemented by Xcel Energy. For decades, SCC has served Minneapolis as a critical community institution and we are pleased to use our expertise in energy efficiency and electrification to help them assess and support the installation and implementation of energy-efficient systems, carbon reduction measures, and cost-effective improvements.

If you have any questions about CEE's role in this project, please contact Jon Blaufuss, Senior Program Manager at jblaufuss@mncee.org, 612-335-3484.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Duffrin', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Chris Duffrin, President
Center for Energy and Environment
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