

401 N Robert Street, Suite 150 St. Paul, MN 55101

March 27, 2023

via email

Sen. Sandy Pappas, Chair, Senate Capital Investment Committee 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd. Capitol Room 328 St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Pappas and committee members:

On behalf of the 1,700+ members and affiliates of the St. Paul Area Chamber, who together represent more than 3 million employees and their families, thank you for the opportunity to express our strong support for Ramsey County's \$26 million bonding request for the RiversEdge project in S.F. 1647. This project will not only serve as a catalyst for economic growth but will provide the public with an enhanced riverfront experience.

RiversEdge will spark over \$800 million in private development, and by weaving together a public park, office space, and housing, will make downtown St. Paul a vibrant destination for visitors, workers, and residents alike. Along with creating 5,000 jobs, the project will provide a connection to the only national park located on the Mississippi River. Simply put, the East Metro region needs the infusion of housing and property tax base that this project will provide.

Significant local planning and investment has gone into the RiversEdge project. Support from the state is the final step needed to make this vision a reality. We urge the inclusion of funding for this important project in this year's capital investment bill.

Respectfully,

Benda L. Kyle

B Kyle President & CEO St. Paul Area Chamber

