NORTH LOOP NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SOUTHWEST LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT

WHEREAS the Southwest Light Rail project represents the next phase of transit build-out within the region;

WHEREAS the Green Line will be completed in June of 2014;

WHEREAS the Green Line extension (Southwest Light Rail) builds on the significant investment in Target Field Station and connects a substantial portion of the metropolitan area;

WHEREAS hub-and-spoke regional transit development serves to reinforce the hub as the core of economic activity;

WHEREAS the line opens up thousands of living-wage jobs to transit-dependent residents;

WHEREAS the line also affords options for an increasing number of residents who are car-free by choice;

WHEREAS the line provides a significant development catalyst in the under-utilized areas of the Lower North Loop and Bassett Creek Valley;

WHEREAS Southwest Light Rail achieves city goals of:

- Growing our population
- Growing business and commerce
- Providing equitable transit options for urban core residents to areas that offer employment
- Providing transportation alternatives that alleviate automobile congestion
- Helping move the city away from a fossil fuel economy

WHEREAS denial of municipal content by Minneapolis on the SWLRT project will permanently set back the development of transit within the city;

WHEREAS regional leaders and residents have worked for several years to reach this point of compromise;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Loop Neighborhood Association endorses the plan set forth by the Metropolitan Council as the only viable way forward, and encourages city officials to grant municipal consent to the project with no further delay.