



TWIN CITIES

**CHESAPEAKE
CONNECT 2023**
A PROGRAM OF THE BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

TWIN CITIES, MINNESOTA | OCTOBER 10-12, 2023

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BMC STAFF 44

TRIP ATTENDEES 45

ORGANIZATION DIRECTORY 50

WHY THE TWIN CITIES

If you ask anyone from the Twin Cities, they will, very politely, tell you that it's one of the best places to live in the entire country. Despite the fact that the normal daily temperature in January is only 12 °F, both Minneapolis and St. Paul have been steadily growing for the last decade, and the region's overall population has nearly doubled since 1970. Their cost of living is 10% lower than it is in the Baltimore metro, and they are home to 14 Fortune 500 headquarters. On top of their economic success, the Twin Cities are one of just 13 metros with a MLB, NBA, NFL and NHL franchise and the region has the one of nation's most vibrant theater scenes outside of New York and Chicago.

Over the next few days, we will learn that this success did not come about by accident. The Twin Cities have a history of regional cooperation, forward thinking investment and innovative policies that have set the stage for their success. The latest, and perhaps most ambitious, example is the Groundbreak Coalition, a joint effort of the region's largest corporations, foundations and anchor institutions centered on a \$2 billion investment strategy.

We'll learn more about the Twin Cities' unique approach to regionalism with the Metropolitan Council, a policy-making body, planning agency, and service provider that partners with local governments by managing transit, water systems, parks, and housing programs.

Culturally, the Twin Cities are an unlikely melting pot. The region is home to a large and diverse Native American community, as well as descendants of French and northern European settlers, Mexican-Americans with century-old roots, and most recently, refugees from southeast Asia and Somalia. We'll learn how each of these cultures has left their mark on life in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

The region is certainly not without its challenges and we'll have the opportunity to hear from Twin Cities leaders about their successes and setbacks in tackling issues ranging from divisive infrastructure to climate change to their own legacy of redlining and segregation.



TIMELINE

**8,000
BCE**

The Dakota name the falls at the confluence of Mni Sota Wakpa (Minnesota)

1680

Fr. Louis Hennepin visits the falls and Haha Wakpa (Mississippi). The Dakota refer to the falls as Owamniyomni.

1823

Colonel Josia Snelling oversees the construction of Fort Snelling and the first mills at the falls.

1805

Zebediah Pike purchases two tracts of land from the Dakota located on the St. Croix, Mississippi and Minnesota rivers for \$2,000. These lands would become the Twin cities.

1976

The Twin Cities begin welcoming Hmong refugees from Southeast Asia. The Hmong community now makes up more than 10% of St. Paul's population.

1968

Dedication of I-94, which was built through Black and working class neighborhoods, including St. Paul's Rondo community. One in eight African Americans in St. Paul lost a home to I-94.

1965

Poppin Fresh, the Pillsbury Doughboy is born

1947

Minneapolis Mayor Hubert Humphrey establishes the city's first civil rights commission one year before being elected to the US Senate.

1983

District Energy opens in St. Paul and begins providing heat to the business district. In 1993 the plant would begin to provide chilled air as well.

1984

Purple Rain is released. The film would produce two #1 hits, win an Oscar for best soundtrack and introduce America to the purifying waters of Lake Minnetonka.

1990s

Somali refugees begin moving to the Twin Cities after the start of the civil war. The Twin Cities is now believed to be home to the largest Somali population outside of East Africa, with over 80,000 residents.

2007

The I-35W bridge over the Mississippi river collapses during rush hour, sparking nationwide concern regarding the safety of the country's infrastructure.

1838

The community of Pigs Eye is founded by Whiskey Distillers forced to move away from Ft. Snelling. Pigs Eye is later renamed St. Paul by Fr. Lucien Galtier.

1848-1910

Minneapolis is a national leader in lumber production

1858

Minnesota becomes a state, with St. Paul named the capital. The same year, Minneapolis is incorporated as a city.

1860

Eliza Winston, an enslaved Mississippi woman who travelled to St. Anthony with her enslavers for the summer, filed a lawsuit and won her freedom in a Minneapolis court.

1928

Washburn-Crosby merged with four other flour mills, and General Mills was born.

1922

Charles Schulz, the creator of the Peanuts, is born in Minneapolis. Much of Peanuts was based on his formative years in the Twin Cities.

1882

Upton Island Station produces the first centralized hydroelectric power in the United States. The station would help lead Minneapolis' move from gas to electric power.

1866 - 1869

The Washburn-Crosby and Pillsbury companies were founded in Minneapolis with mills on the Mississippi River. For the next half century, the Twin Cities would be a global leader in grain production.

2013

On December 9, the final 2:07 of the the Vikings/Ravens game saw 36 total points, 5 lead changes, and a 29-26 Ravens victory.

2014

The Central Corridor Lightrail Line (or Green Line) opens. The line connects St. Paul and Minneapolis and is currently being expanded into suburban communities.

2020

The murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis sparks a global protest movement against racial injustice, the largest since the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s,

2023

The Minnesota state legislature passes omnibus \$1.3B transportation package including a 3/4 cent regional transportation sales tax expected to raise \$440M annually for transit.

GETTING AROUND

 **Minneapolis Marriott City Center**
30 S 7th St, Minneapolis, MN 55402
612.349.4000

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

- 1** Mill City Museum
- 2** Owamni by The Sioux Chef

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

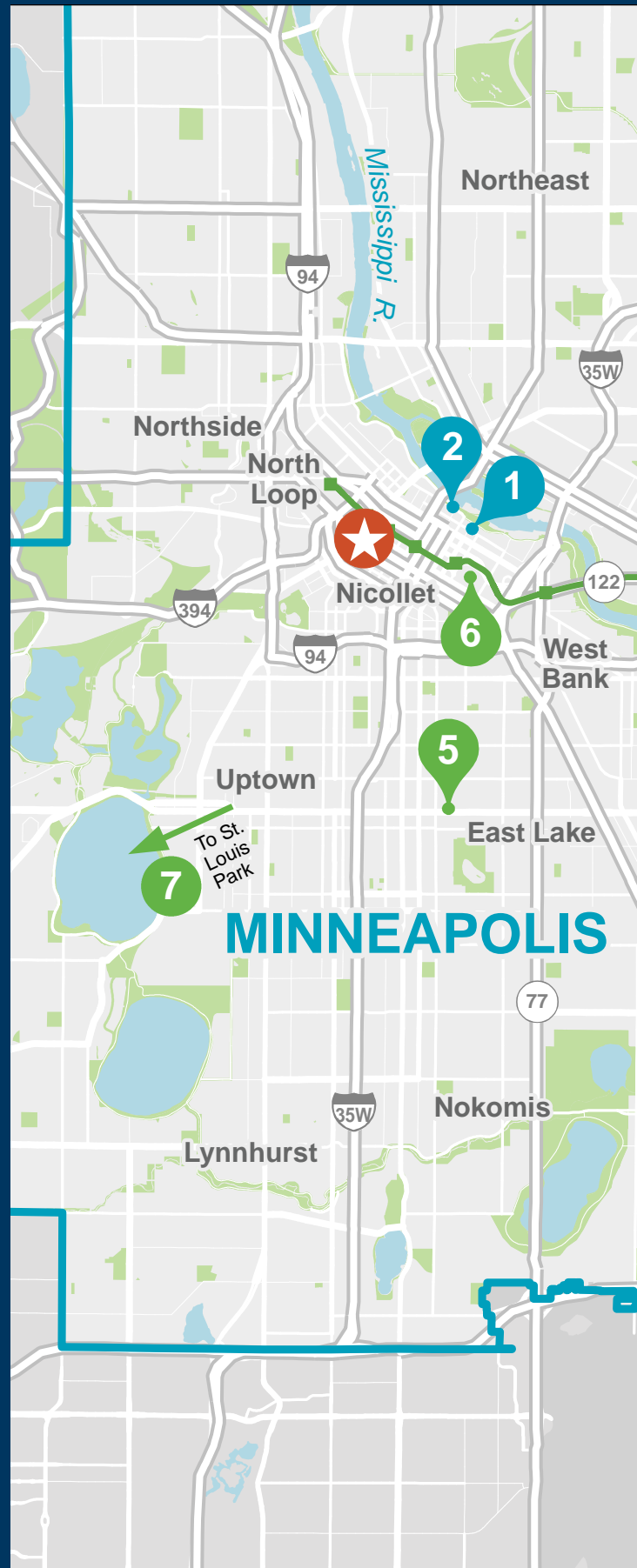
Smaller groups will attend one of five breakout sessions within and around the Twin Cities.

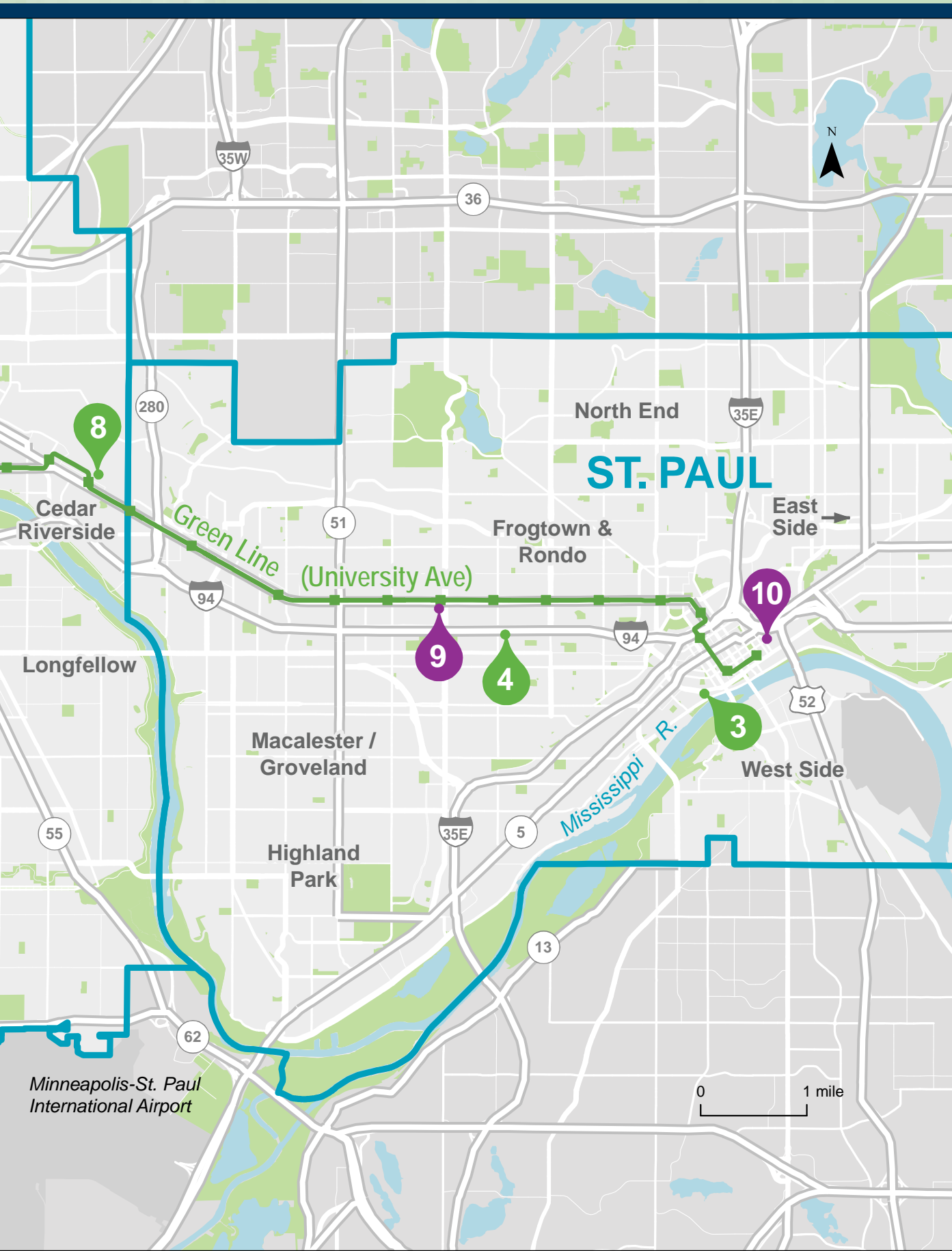
- 3** District Energy
- 4** Rondo Neighborhood
- 5** Midtown Greenway / Midtown Global Market
- 6** US Bank Stadium
- 7** St Louis Park

- 8** The Market at Malcolm Yards

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

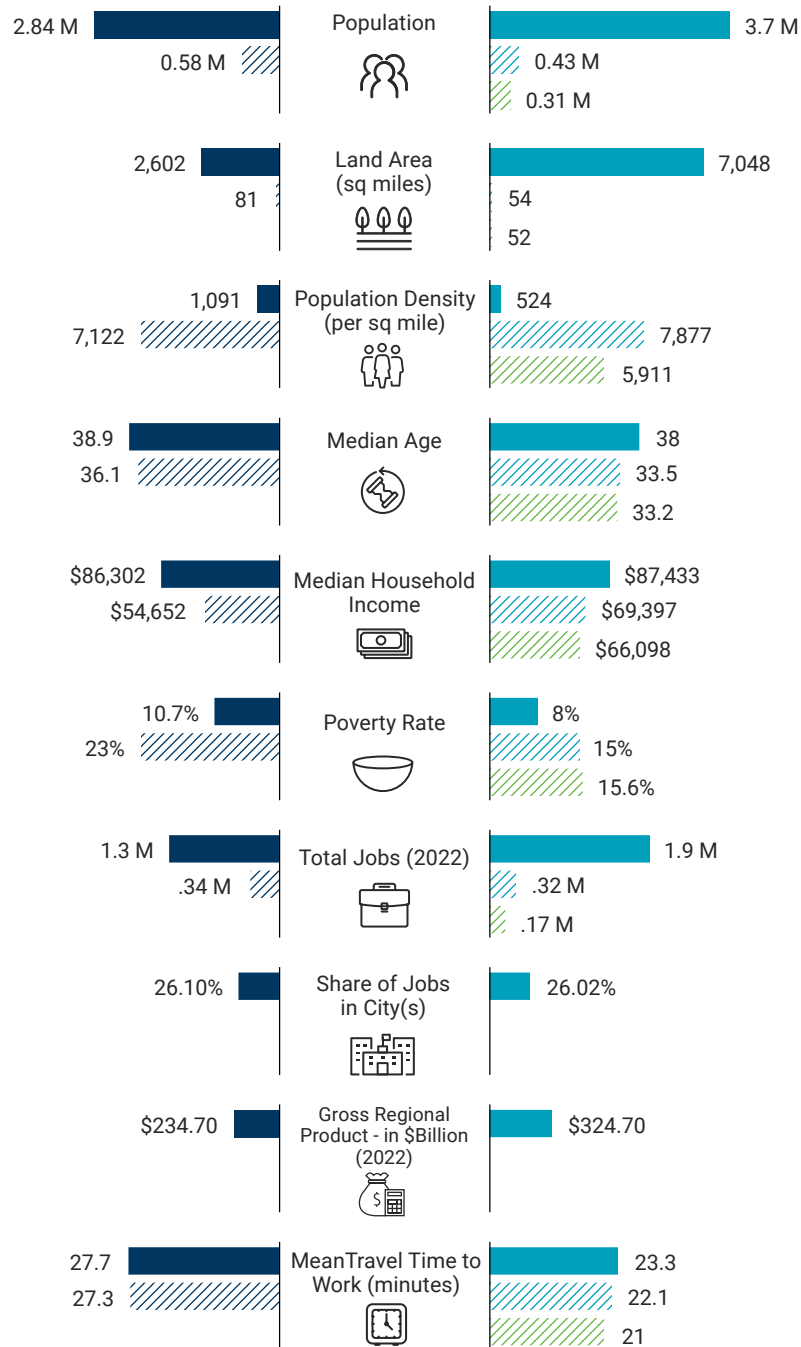
- 9** Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
- 10** CHS Field





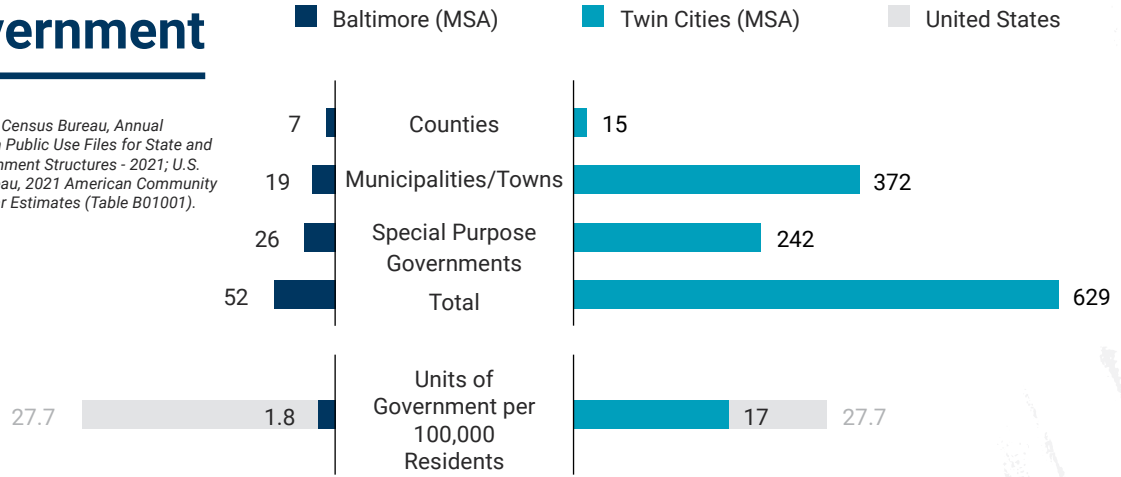
PEER COMPARISON

General Demographics



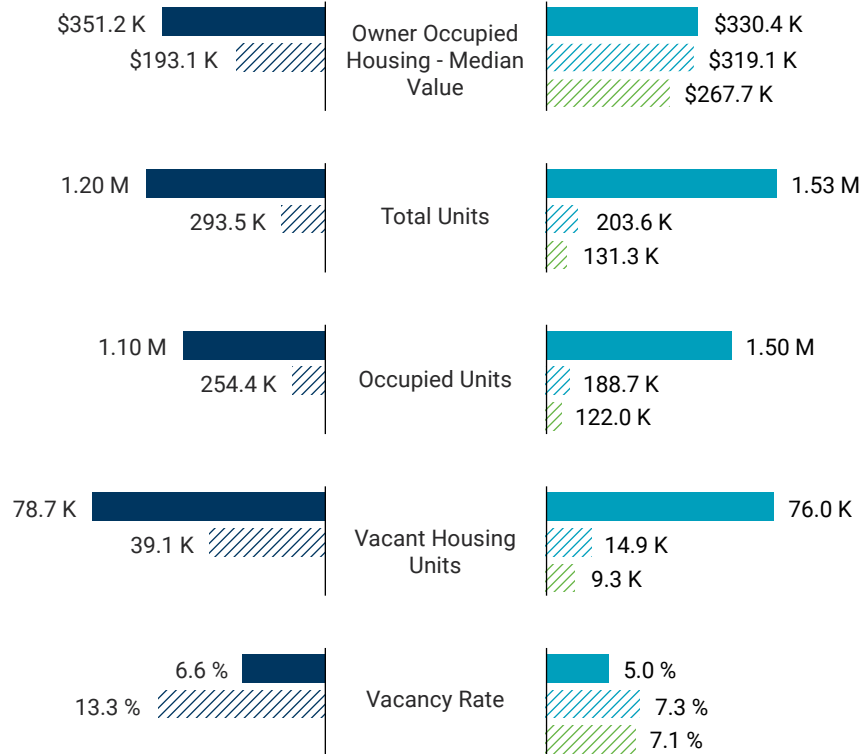
Total Units of Government

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Organization Public Use Files for State and Local Government Structures - 2021; U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 1-year Estimates (Table B01001).



Housing

■ Baltimore (MSA) ■ Twin Cities (MSA)
▨ Baltimore (City) ▨ Minneapolis (City)
▨ St. Paul (City)





Fortune 500 Companies Headquartered in the Twin Cities

■ Minnetonka
 ■ Minneapolis
 ■ Inver Grover Heights
 ■ St. Paul
 ■ Eden Prairie
 ■ Arden Hills
 ■ Medina

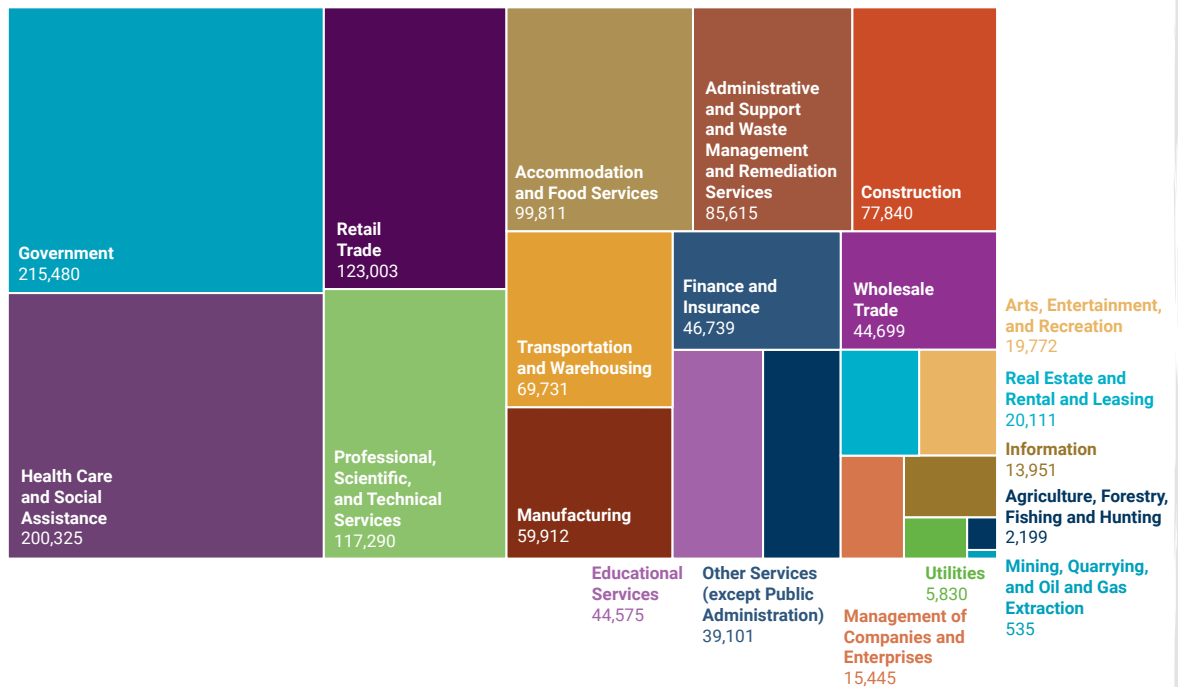
COMPANY	RANK*	REVENUE
UnitedHealth Group	5	\$324.1 B
Target Corp.	33	\$109.1 B
CHS	90	\$47.8 B
Best Buy	94	\$46.3 B
3M	116	\$34.2 B
U.S. Bancorp	149	\$27.4 B
C.H. Robinson Worldwide	160	\$26.7 B
Land O'Lakes	213	\$19.2 B
General Mills	219	\$19.0 B
Xcel Energy	271	\$15.3 B
Ameriprise Financial	289	\$14.3 B
Ecolab	293	\$14.2 B
Thrivent	412	\$9.35 B
Polaris	424	\$9.0 B

*2023 Fortune 500 Ranking

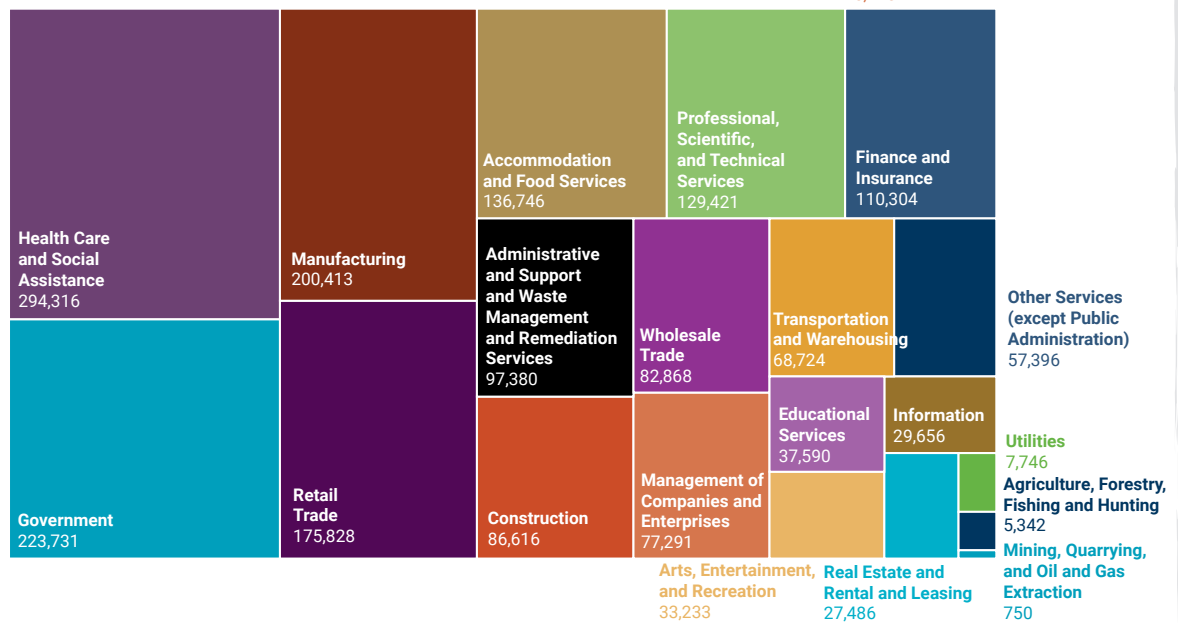


Employment by Industry

BALTIMORE (MSA)

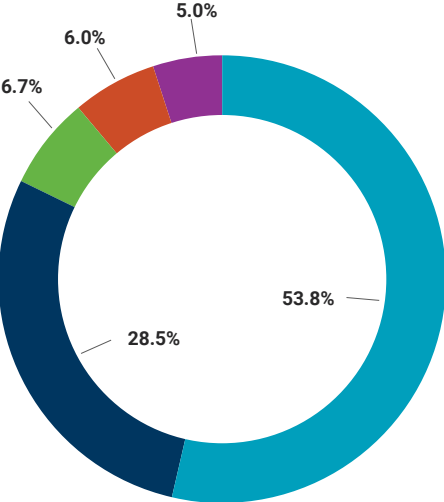


TWIN CITIES (MSA)

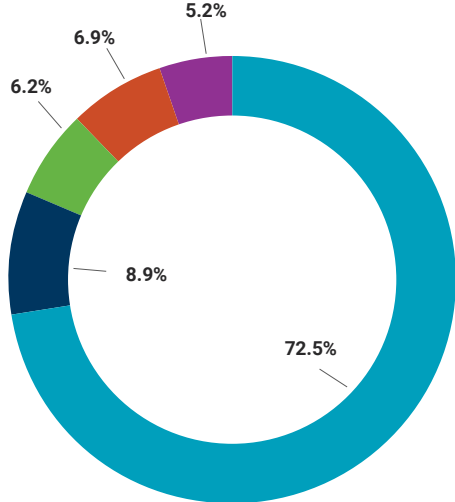


Race/Ethnicity Demographics

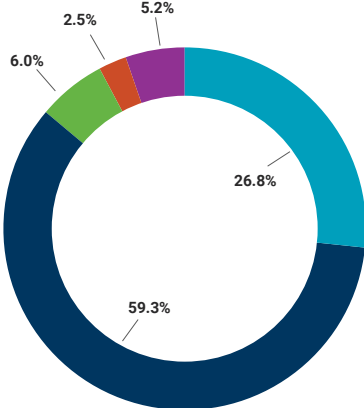
Baltimore (MSA)



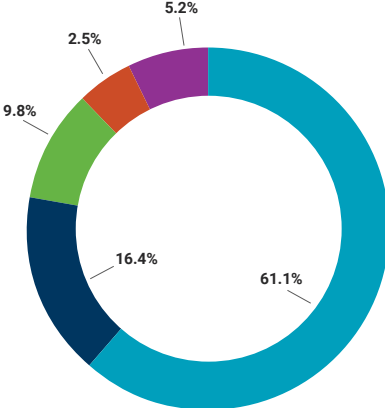
Twin Cities (MSA)



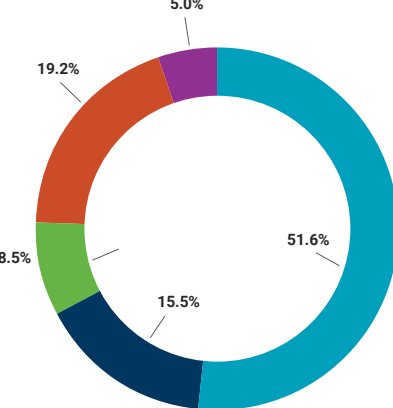
Baltimore (City)



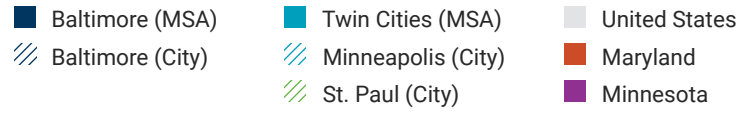
Minneapolis (City)



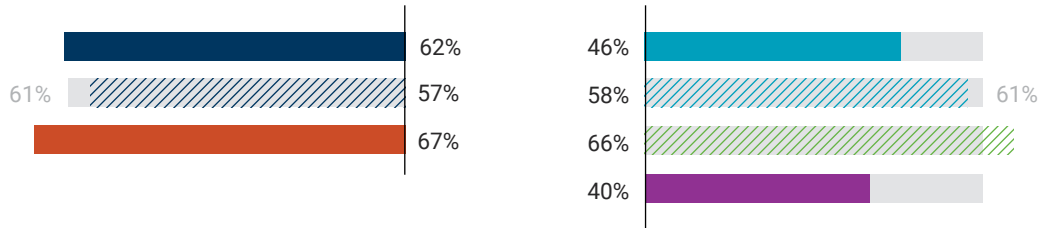
St. Paul (City)



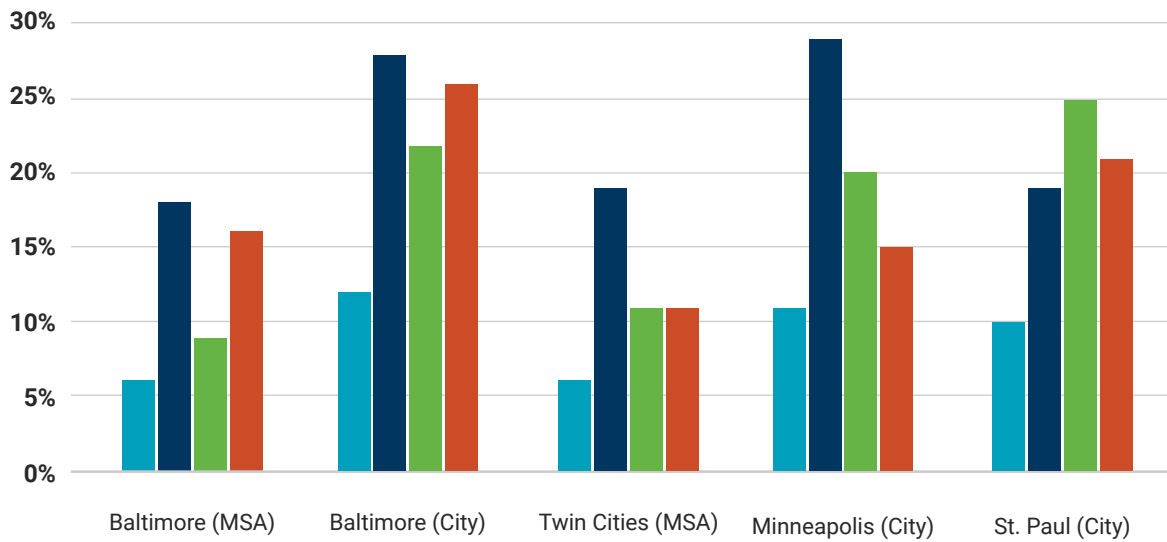
Diversity Index



The probability that two people, chosen at random, will be from two different ethnic groups.



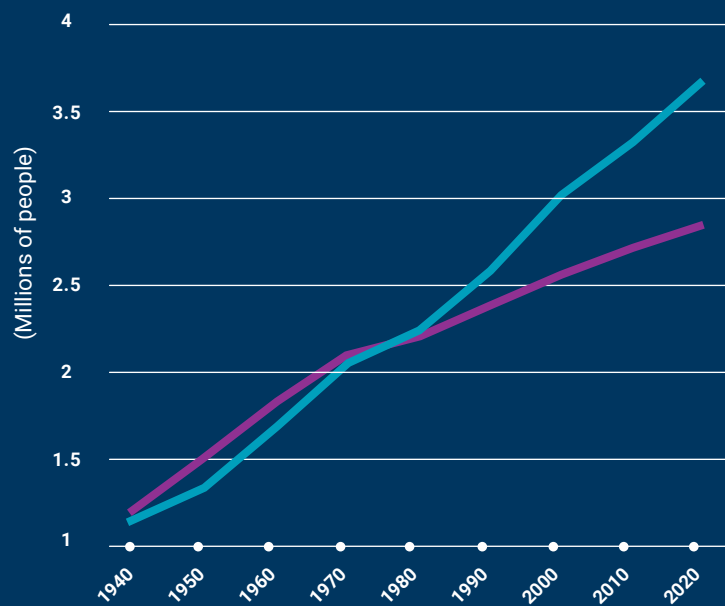
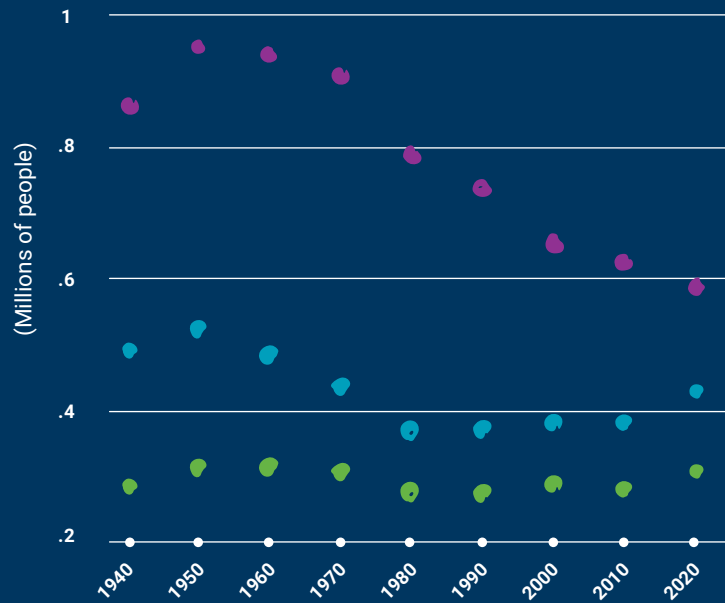
Population in Poverty by Race





Population Over Time

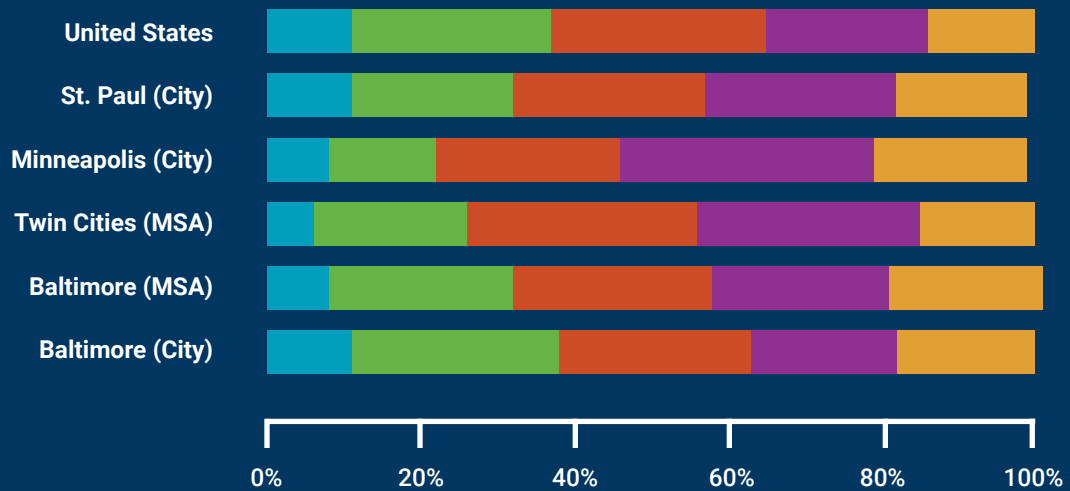
- Baltimore (City)
- Minneapolis (City)
- St. Paul (City)
- Baltimore (MSA)
- Twin Cities (MSA)





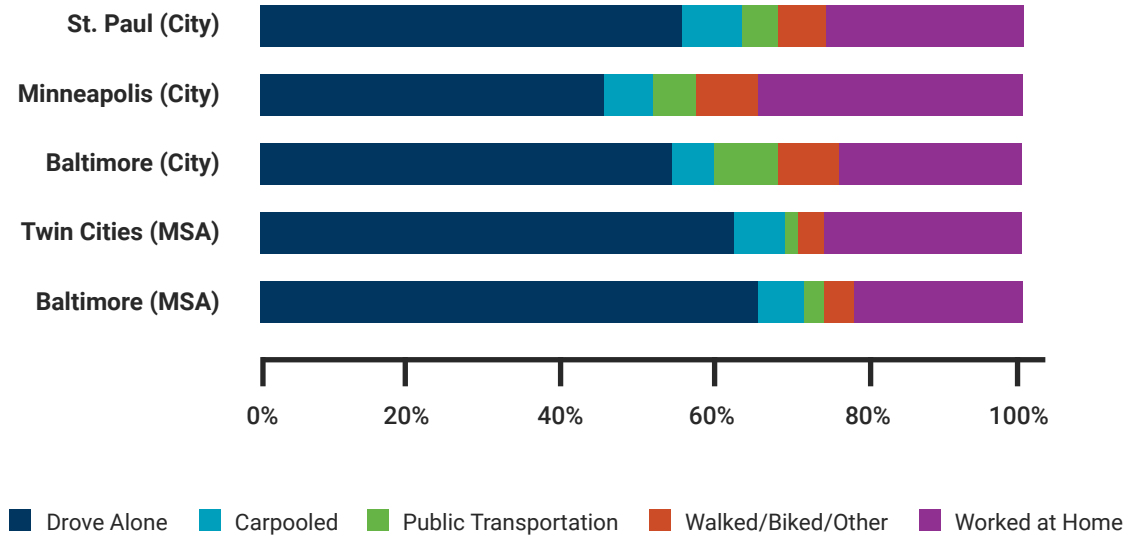
Educational Attainment

■ Less than HS Diploma
 ■ Some College or Associates
 ■ Graduate Degree +
■ HS Diploma/GED
 ■ Bachelor's Degree

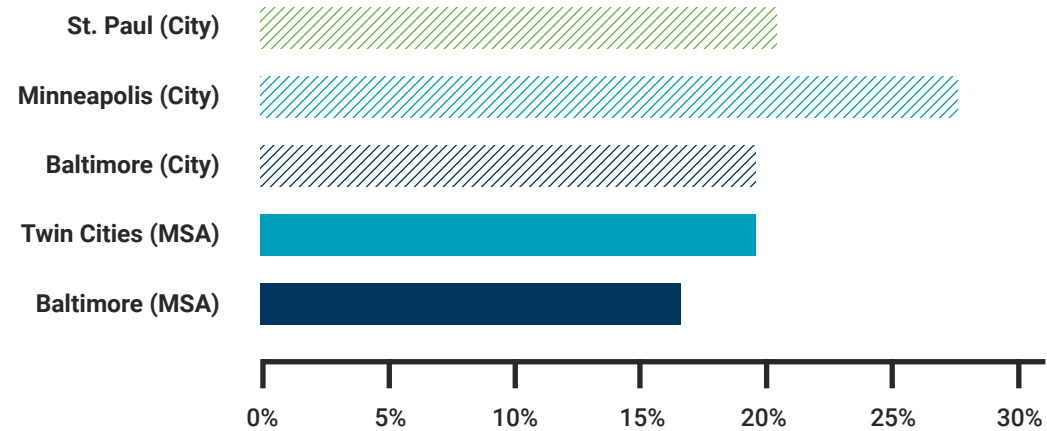


Commute

Means of Transportation to Work for the Baltimore and Minneapolis Metro Areas - 2021
(and other jurisdictions for comparative purposes)

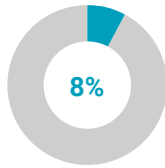


Shift in Work From Home (2019-2021)

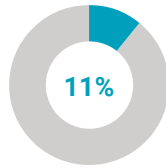


Foreign Born Populations

Baltimore (City)



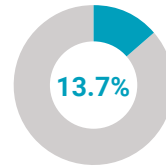
Baltimore (MSA)



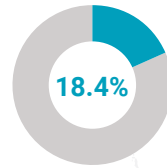
Twin Cities (MSA)



Minneapolis (City)

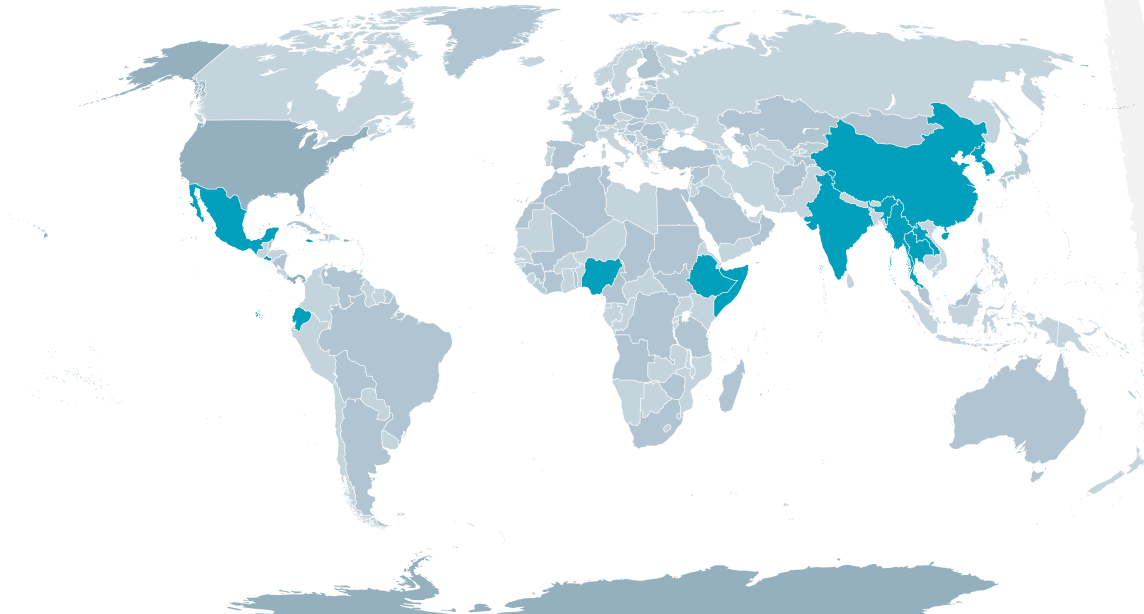


St. Paul (City)



Top Five Largest Foreign Born Populations

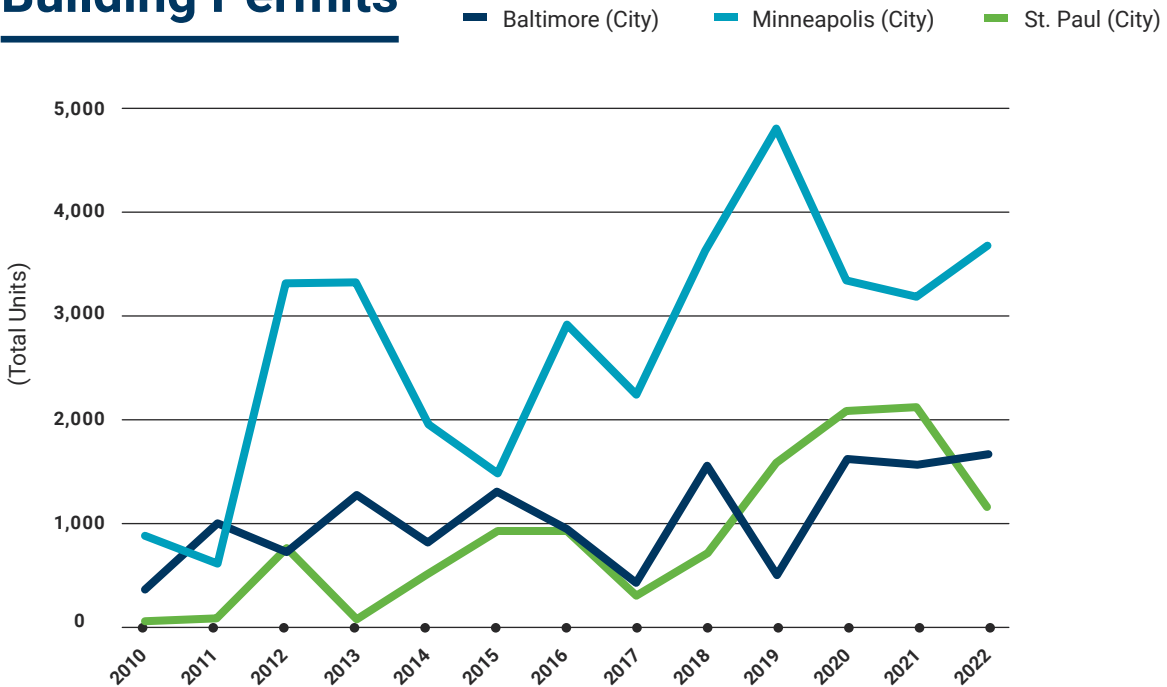
Nigeria	3,405	India	26,323	Mexico	41,563	Somalia	13,106	Thailand	9,531
Jamaica	2,811	China	20,198	Somalia	29,261	Mexico	7,564	Laos	8,505
China	2,589	Nigeria	19,204	India	29,017	Ethiopia	4,709	Burma	5,968
El Salvador	2,412	Korea	17,077	Laos	23,144	Ecuador	4,020	Mexico	4,846
India	1,945	El Salvador	16,524	Ethiopia	21,207	China	3,422	Ethiopia	4,393



Change in Median Rent 2017-2023

	Baltimore (City)	Baltimore (MSA)	Minneapolis (City)	St. Paul (City)	Twin Cities (MSA)
July 2017	\$1,190	\$1,343	\$1,126	\$1,002	\$1,101
July 2023	\$1,363	\$1,670	\$1,101	\$1,085	\$1,239
Numeric Change	\$173	\$327	(\$25)	\$83	\$138
Percent Change	14.5%	24.3%	-2.2%	8.3%	12.5%

Units Authorized by Building Permits





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THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY | OCTOBER 10th

WELCOME TO THE TWIN CITIES: NATIVE ROOTS AND REIMAGINING THE FUTURE

8:25 am	Flight to MSP	BWI
10:00 am	Arrive in Minneapolis	MSP
10:30 am	Buses Depart for Lunch	MSP
11:00 am	Welcome to the Twin Cities	Mill City Museum
3:00 pm	Hotel Check-In	Minneapolis Marriott City Center
3:30 pm	Break	On Your Own
5:30 pm	Buses Depart for Dinner	Minneapolis Marriott Entrance
6:00 pm	Reception and Dinner	Owamni by the Sioux Chef

WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 11th

REGIONAL THINKING AND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

8:00 am	Breakfast	Minneapolis Marriott City Center St. Croix 1
8:30 am	Regional Systems and Inclusive Economies	Minneapolis Marriott City Center St. Croix1
11:00 am	Buses / Metro Riders Depart for Community Visits	Minneapolis Marriott Entrance
11:30 am	Community Visits and Lunch	Ever-Green Energy Midtown Greenway / Midtown Global Market Rondo Neighborhood Downtown East TOD St Louis Park TOD
3:00 pm	Afternoon Break	On Your Own
5:00 pm	Metro Riders Depart for Malcolm Yards	Minneapolis Marriott Entrance
5:15 pm	Buses Depart for Malcom Yards	Minneapolis Marriott Entrance
5:45 pm	Chesapeake Connect 2023 Group Photo	In Front of The Market at Malcolm Yards
6:00 pm	Reception and Dinner - A Taste of the Twin Cities	The Market at Malcolm Yards

THURSDAY | OCTOBER 12th

NEW AMERICANS AND AMERICA'S PASTIME

8:00 am	Breakfast	Minneapolis Marriott City Center St. Croix 1
8:30 am	Welcoming Immigrants and Refugees: The Data	Minneapolis Marriott City Center St. Croix 1
10:00 am	Buses Depart Hotel	Minneapolis Marriott Entrance
10:30 am	Community Stories	Wilder Foundation
12:00 pm	Closing Lunch	CHS Field
2:30 pm	Buses Depart for Airport	CHS Field
5:00 pm	Flight to Baltimore	MSP
8:20 pm	Arrive in Baltimore	BWI

TUESDAY

Welcome To The Twin Cities: Native Roots And Reimagining The Future

8:25

FLIGHT TO THE TWIN CITIES

✈ Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI)

10:00

ARRIVE IN MINNEAPOLIS

✈ Minneapolis–Saint Paul International Airport

Guests will arrive at MSP and board buses headed for our welcome lunch.

11:00 – 2:00

WELCOME TO THE TWIN CITIES

🏛 Mill City Museum

Sponsored by Morris & Ritchie Associates, Inc.

Our trip will begin at the Mill City Museum. Built into the ruins of what was once the world's largest flour mill, Mill City Museum is located on the historic Mississippi Riverfront. The museum opened in 2003 and focuses on the founding and growth of Minneapolis. The museum led a wave of redevelopment in the early 21st century that reshaped East Town Minneapolis - an area made up by the neighborhoods of the Mill District, Downtown East, and Elliott Park. At the museum we will be welcomed by Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey and a panel of leaders from the business and philanthropic communities.



Jacob Frey

Mayor, City of Minneapolis

Jacob Frey grew up in northern Virginia and first visited Minneapolis to run the Twin Cities Marathon while in law school at Villanova University in Philadelphia. He successfully ran to represent the Third Ward on the city council in 2013, and was elected Mayor of Minneapolis in 2017. As Mayor, Frey has championed an agenda centered on increasing access to affordable housing throughout the city, strengthening community-police relations, and fueling economic growth through inclusive policies. To help bridge the city's racial disparities, Frey worked with his Council Colleagues to establish Cultural Districts, areas prioritized for investment, and created a first-of-its-kind Commercial Property Development Fund to target resources to neighborhoods that have historically experienced disinvestment.



Peter Frosch

Chief Executive Officer, Greater MSP

As CEO of Greater MSP, Peter Frosch leads global strategy for economic development and job creation for the 15-county Minneapolis-St. Paul region. As a partnership of over 350 businesses, universities, cities, counties, foundations and nonprofit organizations, GREATER MSP advances inclusive economic growth and global competitiveness by executing strategies in the areas of job creation, talent, innovation and capital. Frosch served as Senior Vice President of Strategy at GREATER MSP before taking on the role of CEO in 2019. Before joining GREATER MSP in 2013, Frosch served as Legislative Director for Congresswoman Betty McCollum in Washington, D.C., and as Director of Environmental Policy at Environmental Initiative, a Minneapolis-based nonprofit.



Adair Mosley

Chief Executive Officer, *African American Leadership Forum*

Adair Mosley joined AALF after a distinguished tenure as president and CEO of Pillsbury United Communities. Adair is recognized as a passionate change-maker and relentless strategic innovator who has demonstrated radical and inclusive solutions to the community’s most urgent needs. In 2020 he launched Justice Built Communities, an equitable economic development corporation to prevent gentrification while prioritizing wealth creation in black and brown communities, securing \$5M for its launch. One of his career highlights was securing \$1M in scholarship funds for the graduating class of 2022 at North High School, Minneapolis. Adair serves on the boards of the Women’s Foundation of MN and MinnPost, the Community Advisory Board for the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and as a Regional Champion for the Groundreak Coalition.



Peter McLaughlin

Executive Director, *LISC Twin Cities*

Peter McLaughlin joined LISC as Executive Director in 2019. He previously served 28 years on the county board and while representing South and Southeast Minneapolis, McLaughlin helped lead a range of important efforts, including expansion of the region’s transit network, transit-oriented development along emerging light rail lines and community reinvestment programs that spurred new businesses and jobs. His work on multiple community partnerships in the Phillips and Cedar-Riverside Neighborhoods and along the Midtown Greenway were a signature part of his work. McLaughlin also spent six years as a state representative, leading passage of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, authoring Minnesota’s first parental leave law, working closely with the Jobs Now Coalition and advocating for progressive tax policies, including those that helped support affordable housing.

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3:00

HOTEL CHECK-IN

 Minneapolis Marriott City Center

Guests will arrive at the hotel for check-in.

3:30 – 5:00

BREAK

An opportunity to settle into your room and unwind before dinner.

5:30

BUSES DEPART FOR DINNER

 Minneapolis Marriott City Center Entrance

6:00

RECEPTION AND DINNER

 Owamni by The Sioux Chef

Dinner sponsored by Mercy Medical Center

Reception sponsored by CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield

Our opening dinner brings us back to the Mill District. We will be dining at be at at Owamni by The Sioux Chef, a modern Indigenous full service establishment located at OwamniYomni (St. Anthony’s Falls), the sacred site of peace and well-being for the Dakota and Anishinaabe people. Owamni was recognized by the James Beard Awards as the best new restaurant of 2022.



Sean Sherman

Founder / CEO, *Owamni by The Sioux Chef*

Chef Sean Sherman was born and raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, as were his parents, and grandparents, before him. Chef Sean and Owamni team work to make indigenous foods more accessible to as many communities as possible. This includes prioritizing the purchase of ingredients from Indigenous food producers. Chef Sean has removed colonial ingredients such as wheat flour, cane sugar and dairy and is proud to present a decolonized dining experience. Chef Sean is the author of the widely acclaimed The Sioux Chef’s Indigenous Kitchen, winner of the 2018 James Beard Award for Best American Cookbook. He is also the co-founder of North American Traditional Indigenous Food Systems (NATIFS), a nonprofit dedicated to addressing the economic and health crises affecting Native communities by re-establishing Native foodways, and the Indigenous Food Lab restaurant, training, development and support center located in Minneapolis.

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**MILL
CITY
MUSEUM**

Minnesota Historical Society

WEDNESDAY

Regional Thinking And Community Investment

8:00

BREAKFAST

📍 Minneapolis Marriott City Center St. Croix 1

Sponsored by Cole Roofing

8:30

REGIONAL SYSTEMS AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIES

📍 Minneapolis Marriott City Center St. Croix 1

After breakfast is served, we will hear from Heather Worthington and Isaac Russell from the Center for Economic Inclusion about the Center’s mission to build racially inclusive and equitable regional economies. Afterwards, we will hear from Chair Charlie Zelle of the Metropolitan Council to discuss regional partnerships and systems.



Heather Worthington

Managing Consultant, *Center for Economic Inclusion*

Heather Worthington joined the Center with more than 25 years of leadership experience in local government organizations, most recently as the founder and Principal Consultant with Worthington Advisors LLC, a consultancy focused on governance and policy advising, leadership and team building and land use strategy guidance, all through a racial equity lens. As Managing Consultant, Worthington leads efforts to accelerate racial equity and regional inclusive economic growth through systems-change initiatives with local, regional and state government agencies. As Director of Long Range Planning in Minneapolis, Worthington led the creation, engagement and policy adoption of the Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Worthington is an Adjunct Faculty in the Hamline University School of Business, and currently serves as Chair of the Midway Investment Cooperative and as a Trustee for the Episcopal Church of Minnesota.



Isaac Russell

Director of Public Policy, *Center for Economic Inclusion*

As Director of Public Policy for the Center for Economic Inclusion, Isaac Russell develops and leads strategies to close racial wealth gaps and catalyze an inclusive equitable economy. He builds the internal capacity of the Center’s team to influence local, regional and statewide public policy, and leverage external coalitions and partnerships to the same end. Prior to joining the Center, Russell served as a Legislative Assistant in the Minnesota State Senate from 2013 to 2022. Prior to his legislative career, Russell learned about the challenges small businesses face during his tenure as a project manager for an industrial flooring company.



Charlie Zelle

Chair, *Metropolitan Council*

Charles A. Zelle is the Chair of the Metropolitan Council, the regional policy-making body, planning agency, and provider of essential services in the seven-county Twin Cities metro area. He is also the chairman of Jefferson Lines, an intercity bus company with passenger routes in 15 heartland states. He previously held the position of president and CEO for more than 20 years until 2012, when he was appointed commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Zelle has served as a board member of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), served on its executive committee, and was chair of its Public Transportation Council. He has served as a member of the executive committee of the Transportation Research Board and past president of the Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials.

11:00

BUSES / METRO RIDERS DEPART FOR COMMUNITY VISITS

 Minneapolis Marriott Entrance

11:30

COMMUNITY VISITS AND LUNCH

The team will split into five smaller groups to visit communities, projects and programs throughout the Twin Cities.

EVER-GREEN ENERGY & ST. PAUL'S ECONOMIC STRATEGY

Sponsored by Tradepoint Atlantic

District Energy St. Paul is a nonprofit utility providing energy services to more than 200 buildings in downtown St. Paul and across the river to a secondary area of commercial, light industrial, and residential development. District Energy has become a showcase for energy efficiency through continued efforts to evolve, reinvent, and integrate sustainable solutions that have earned the operations a global reputation, including recognition from the United Nations Environment Programme. District Energy is the parent company to Ever-Green Energy and has contracted the Ever-Green team to provide operations and management services for the District Energy operations.

After a tour, our team will meet with leaders from the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce and the St. Paul Port Authority.



Ken Smith

President and CEO, *Ever-Green Energy*

Ken Smith has served as CEO of Ever-Green Energy and its parent company District Energy St. Paul since 2010. Prior to joining Ever-Green Energy in 2006, Smith worked globally in the engineering and construction industry for over 20 years, planning, designing and implementing highly reliable energy projects. Smith has served as board chair for the International District Energy Association (IDEA), the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce and the Midwest Renewable Energy Tracking System (M-RETS). He currently serves on the board of trustees of the Science Museum of Minnesota, the board of directors of the St. Paul Downtown Alliance and the Corporate Council for Metropolitan State University, and has been a fellow of the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment since 2016.



Jenae Batt

Director Marketing and Public Relations, *Ever-Green Energy*

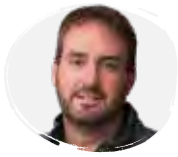
As Director of Marketing and Public Relations for Ever-Green Energy and its parent company District Energy St. Paul, Jenae Batt works across utility operations to develop meaningful customer engagement and coordinate a variety of projects targeted to communicate the value of energy services, bolster customer loyalty and support utility system growth. She leads a team in implementing communications strategies targeting audiences on a spectrum of technical acuity, from the public to industry experts. Prior to joining Ever-Green Energy, Jenae worked in communications and donor relations at University of Minnesota Medical School, and earned a Master's in English literature at Boston College.



B Kyle

President / CEO, *St Paul Area Chamber*

As President and CEO of the St. Paul Area Chamber, B Kyle champions a diverse business community to create an economically vibrant, inclusive and globally competitive region. Prior to her work at the Chamber, she spent 11 years at the St. Paul Port Authority, ultimately co-leading its development work in St. Paul on projects such as the Treasure Island Center, CHS Field, the St. Paul Police Department's Public Safety Training Facility and Major League Soccer. A veteran of the U.S. Army, Kyle is leading the chamber into a new chapter of growth and transition, and was recognized by the Minneapolis St. Paul Business Journal as one of the top 10 Most Admired CEOs in 2020.



Todd Hurley

Executive Director, *St. Paul Port Authority*

St. Paul Port Authority Executive Director Todd Hurley grew up in St. Paul and worked for the city for more than 30 years, including as director of the Office of Financial Services, where he lead negotiations with developers, contractors and landowners for the Xcel Energy Center, CHS Field, Allianz Field and other key projects. After joining the Port Authority in 2019 as chief financial officer, he was elevated in 2022 to lead the agency, which manages four port facilities along the Mississippi River in St. Paul, as well as a number of inland business centers and other community development initiatives in the city.

MIDTOWN GREENWAY / MIDTOWN GLOBAL MARKET

Sponsored by Loyola University Maryland

The Midtown Greenway is a 5.5-mile long former railroad corridor in south Minneapolis with bicycling and walking trails. The Midtown Greenway Coalition is the grassroots organization that successfully advocated for installation of the Midtown Greenway by public agencies. The Coalition continues to engage our community in protecting, improving, and using the Greenway. Located just off the Greenway, is the Midtown Global Market. Owned by two non-profit entities: the Cultural Wellness Center and the Neighborhood Development Center, the Market serves as a small business incubator whose mission is to provide access and opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs.



Soren Jensen

Executive Director, *Midtown Greenway Coalition*

Soren Jensen has served as Executive Director of the Midtown Greenway Coalition, a grassroots organization that advocated for the installation of a 5.5-mile shared-use trail network along a former railroad corridor in south Minneapolis, since 2011. Prior to taking on the role, Jensen had more than 20 years of experience in the non-profit sector, including management positions with the National Parks Conservation Association, the United Way, American Heart Association, Target Corporation, and the American Red Cross. He's a former board member of the Corporate Volunteerism Council – Twin Cities and a founding board member of the Minnesota Association for Volunteer Administration (MAVA), and served on the board of volunteerism nonprofit HandsOn Twin Cities for seven years.



Eduardo Barrera

Real Estate Development Manager, *Neighborhood Development Center*

As the Real Estate Development Manager for the Neighborhood Development Center, Eduardo Barrera works with community partners to restore properties into dynamic commercial spaces in which small businesses can grow. Originally from Mexico City, Barrera has two decades of experience with nonprofits and state and local governments in Minnesota and California focused on delivering affordable housing and economic development to underserved communities. He earned a degree in Public Affairs with a concentration in Housing, Economic and Community Development from the University of Minnesota Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, and served on the City of Saint Paul Planning Commission.

RONDO NEIGHBORHOOD

Sponsored by University of Maryland, Baltimore

The Rondo Neighborhood was the center of the Black community in the Twin Cities for much of the 20th century and was, at one time, home to 80% of St. Paul's African American population. During the construction of I-94 from 1956 through 1968, 700 family homes were demolished, 300 businesses were closed or torn down and the neighborhood was split in two by the highway. In recent years, the Rondo community has developed a vision to reconnect the community by constructing a land bridge and creating a new cultural district.



Keith Baker

Executive Director, *Reconnect Rondo*

As executive director for Reconnect Rondo, Keith Baker leads the organization's mission to revitalize the Rondo Community with a land bridge that reconnects Rondo and creates Minnesota's first African American cultural enterprise district. Keith has more than 35 years of experience in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. His 18 years with the Minnesota Department of Transportation included oversight of federal and state professional technical contract administration and construction compliance monitoring. He served as a member of the Ramsey County Blue Ribbon Commission, which helped elevate Minnesota's ranking as 50th in the nation for racial disparities. He also helped lead an effort to ensure equitable inclusion of minority- and women-owned engineering and architectural firms on the billion dollar U.S. Bank Stadium project.



Marvin Roger Anderson

Board Chair, *ReConnect Rondo*

Marvin Roger Anderson has long been a key leader of efforts to celebrate the past, present and future of St. Paul's African American community of Rondo. He co-founded the Rondo Days Festival in 1983 and was instrumental in creating the Rondo Commemorative Plaza in 2018. Anderson currently serves as board chair for ReConnect Rondo and the Rondo Center of Diverse Expression, was co-founder and first president of the Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers and chaired the Archie Givens Collection of African American Literature at the University of Minnesota. He now helps lead the restorative movement to revitalize Rondo with an African American cultural enterprise district connected by a land bridge.

DOWNTOWN EAST TOD

Sponsored by Margrave strategies

Downtown East has been the home of significant redevelopment in the 21st century. Initially spurred by the construction of the Mill City Museum and the Guthrie Theater, the neighborhood has more recently seen the development of US Bank Stadium and the Wells Fargo & Co.'s East Town Towers. Downtown East's transit oriented blend of commercial, residential and entertainment focused development has made it a national model for urban renewal.



Chuck Lutz

President, *Shenandoah Consulting Group*

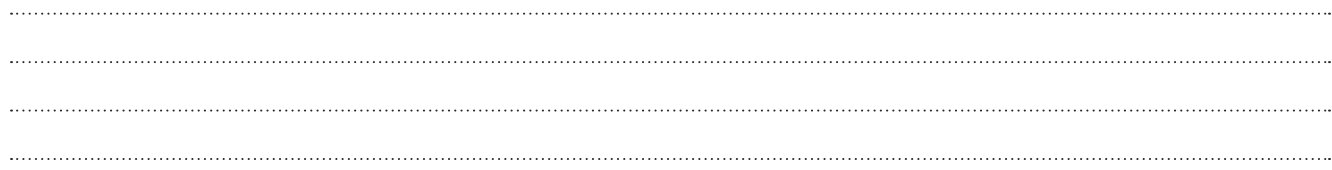
Chuck Lutz served with the City of Minneapolis for 43 years, notably as the first Deputy Director of the Community Planning and Economic Development department from 2002 to his retirement from the City in 2019. He now leads the Shenandoah Consulting Group and continues to work on select projects for the City. Lutz is known for his determination and attention to detail as well as someone who capably manages complex, transformative, highly visible, and sometimes controversial development projects, including work on the Downtown East project. The project included two anchor offices, a hotel, apartments, new green space and a parking ramp to serve both the office buildings and the adjacent US Bank Stadium.



Michael Vekitch

Chair, *Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority*

Michael Vekitch has chaired the Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority, the governing board that represents the state's ownership and oversight of the U.S. Bank Stadium, since 2017. Also known as Minnesota's 'go-to guy,' Vekitch consistently demonstrates expertise in strategic planning, finance, compliance, governance, succession planning and resource alignment. He serves as chair of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees and BNC National Bank, as well as CEO of accounting firm Vekitch Chartered. He previously served as President/Chair of the Bank Holding Company Association, and twice as the Acting Director of the Minnesota Lottery and Chair of the Minnesota Board of Accountancy. Vekitch earned his degree from the University of Minnesota.



ST LOUIS PARK TOD

Sponsored by Ballard Spahr

St. Louis Park is a vibrant first-tier community located immediately west of Minneapolis and just five miles from downtown. Incorporated in 1886 just over 50,000 people call St. Louis Park home. The City is preparing to open three light rail stations as part of the METRO Green Line Extension and they are in the midst of a community-led process to create four small area plans for gateway areas within the community to guide decisions about development, investment and how the areas are used.



Jake Spano

Mayor, City of St. Louis Park

Jake Spano is serving his second term after first being elected Mayor of St. Louis Park in 2016. He previously served as an at-large St. Louis Park council member and deputy secretary of state for the State of Minnesota. He serves on the Southwest Light Rail Transit Corridor Management Committee and the executive committees for the Regional Council of Mayors and the Center for Transportation Studies at the University of Minnesota. In 2021, he launched Spano Group Advisors, leveraging more than 30 years in the private and public sectors to build a model for a culture of high performance in highly visible, highly scrutinized organizations, including local government, school districts, nonprofits and the private sector.



Sean Walther

Planning Manager / Deputy Community Development Manager, City of St Louis Park

Sean Walther, AICP has 25 years of experience in planning, redevelopment and plan implementation. He works to create sustainable communities with the lenses of equity, economy and environment. Sean has enjoyed serving the City of St. Louis Park for the past 17 years. He previously worked for the cities of Anoka and Ramsey, Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance, and Initiative Foundation. He has a bachelor's degree in Local and Urban Affairs from St. Cloud State University and studied Urban and Regional Planning at the Humphrey Institute of Urban Affairs. He has served as a member, team leader and chair of the Minnesota Design Team.



Jennifer Monson

Redevelopment Administrator, City of St. Louis Park

Jennifer Monson, AICP has been with the City of St. Louis Park since 2016. Jennifer has extensive experience working on the planning, zoning and financial aspects of development, with a special emphasis on mixed-use, mixed-income, transit-oriented development. She has a bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in city and regional planning from Clemson University. She has served on the board of the American Planning Associate Minnesota chapter since 2021 and was part of the leadership committee for the South Carolina chapter.

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- 3:00** **AFTERNOON BREAK**
On Your Own
- 5:00** **METRO RIDERS DEPART FOR MALCOLM YARDS**
 Minneapolis Marriott Entrance
- 5:15** **BUSES DEPART FOR MALCOM YARDS**
 Minneapolis Marriott Entrance
- 5:45** **CHESAPEAKE CONNECT 2023 GROUP PHOTO**
- 6:00** **RECEPTION AND DINNER - A TASTE OF THE TWIN CITIES**

 The Market at Malcolm Yards

Dinner Sponsored by BGE

Reception Sponsored by Comcast

Located in Minneapolis in the historic Prospect Park neighborhood, Malcolm Yards is a modern community built with roots in the past. Located adjacent to the Metro Green Line, the development this growing community includes market and affordable residential units, office space, retail and a popular brewery and distillery, as well as a food hall., the Market at Malcolm Yards.



John Wall

President, *Wall Companies*

John Wall joined Wall Companies in 1996. As President, he is responsible for overseeing real estate development and management of The Wall Companies portfolio, and has completed several real estate projects in Minneapolis. He is leading the transformation of a 20-acre mixed-use development adjacent to the Minneapolis Campus of the University of Minnesota. This project, called Malcolm Yards, contemplates more than 500,000 SF of high-tech office & laboratory buildings, along with several hundred housing units and some retail spaces. Wall is active in a variety of industry-related organizations including the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties, the Minnesota Commercial Association of Realtors and the MN/SD Chapter of the Certified Commercial Investment Managers.



Patricia Wall

Owner and Chief Operating Officer, *The Market at Malcolm Yards*

With her background in the food service business, Patricia Wall knew that The Market at Malcolm Yards could become a food destination. Wall’s love of food led her to culinary school in New York, where her career in hospitality began, and her catering work took her to countless homes and venues. Meanwhile, she pursued a career in residential and commercial real estate, and jumped at the chance to combine these passions. With The Market at Malcolm Yards, she realized her dream of creating a place where a diverse community could live, work and play. As Chief Operating Officer, Wall helped develop The Market at Malcolm Yards into a dynamic, 19,000 square foot food hall with culinary creations and innovative cocktails served in a unique historic setting.



THURSDAY

New Americans And America's Pastime

8:00

BREAKFAST

 Minneapolis Marriott City Center St. Croix 1
Sponsored by Southway Builders

8:30

WELCOMING IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES: THE DATA

 Minneapolis Marriott City Center St. Croix 1

Nearly half a million immigrants call Minnesota home, a population that includes citizens and non-citizens, students and workers and refugees who fled their home countries. Our morning presentation will feature a presentation from Dr. Allison Liuzzi of Minnesota Compass about policies that attracted different immigrant and refugee groups to the Twin Cities area and data on population trends past, present and future. Minnesota Compass was developed when leaders from across Minnesota voiced a desire to have credible, easy-to-access data about their communities. Wilder Research worked with advisors representing business, government, nonprofit and philanthropy to develop and implement Minnesota Compass as a statewide resource for reliable data.



Allison Liuzzi

Research Manager, *Wilder Research*
Project Director, *Minnesota Compass*

As Project Director for Minnesota Compass, Liuzzi works with a team of researchers to describe and measure progress on topics related to quality of life in Minnesota, providing credible, easy-to-access data and tracking trends to inform decision-making among policymakers and nonprofit, business and community leaders. Liuzzi's particular interests include demographic trends, immigration, employment and workforce development. She also serves as president of the Community Indicators Consortium, an international organization that supports communities' efforts to use data to improve quality of life. Dr. Liuzzi joined Wilder Research in 2012. She earned a Ph.D. in sociology at University of New Hampshire.

10:00

BUSES DEPART HOTEL

 Minneapolis Marriott Entrance

10:30

COMMUNITY STORIES

 Wilder Foundation

The Wilder Foundation will host our group while we learn more about the cultural and economic impacts of immigrant and refugee communities in the Twin Cities. We will hear directly from community leaders who will share their stories and experiences as immigrants in the upper midwest.



Armando Camacho

President and CEO, *Wilder Foundation*

Armando Camacho was named president and CEO of Amherst H. Wilder Foundation in July 2020. Prior to this, he served as president and CEO of Opportunity Partners from 2014-2020, and president of Neighborhood House from 2008-2013. Previously held positions also include district administrator for the St. Paul Public School District and a principal for the Minneapolis Public School District. Camacho graduated from St. Cloud State University with a bachelor's degree in special education and he holds a master's degree in education. In addition, he obtained K-12 principal, superintendent and director of community education licensures. He also earned a fundraising certificate and Mini MBA from University of St. Thomas. Camacho was also among 30 Minnesota leaders chosen to serve on Governor Walz's One Minnesota Transition Advisory Board.



Idris Mohamed

Director of Business Development and Housing, *African Economic Development Solutions*

Having served as Director of Business Development and Housing for African Economic Development Solutions (AEDS) since early 2020, Idris Mohamed has helped lead the agency's efforts to support wealth building and entrepreneurship among African immigrant communities in the Twin Cities region through a period of pronounced economic turbulence. Among the many projects in his purview is Little Africa, the ambitious redevelopment of a vacant, century-old former Thunderbird dealership into a headquarters for AEDS and center for connecting and celebrating the region's diverse and growing African immigrant communities.



May yer Thao

President and CEO, *Hmong American Partnership*

Since joining Hmong American Partnership (HAP) in 2021, May yer Thao has led the agency's efforts to provide support and resources to the Hmong immigrant and refugee community in the Twin Cities region and across the country. Thao grew up in St. Paul and previously served as Executive Director of the Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce and as Assistant Deputy Director of the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority. Throughout her career, she has elevated the visibility of the Hmong, Southeast Asian and immigrant and refugee communities in the Midwest.

12:00

CLOSING LUNCH

 CHS Field

Sponsored by MICUA

Afternoon reception sponsored by MCB Real Estate

The final stop of the trip takes us to CHS Field, the home of the St. Paul Saints. The Saints are the AAA affiliate of the Minnesota Twins, but they were founded in 1993 by an ownership group that included Bill Murray. Their simple motto, "Fun is Good", runs through every aspect of their organization and has helped make the team one of the most successful minor league baseball teams in the country.

Since its opening in 2015, the multi-use, year-round stadium has created new connections into downtown St. Paul, and spurred the urban revitalization of the Lowertown neighborhood.



Derek Sharrer

Executive Vice President and General Manager, *St. Paul Saints*

Derek is completing his 20th season in St. Paul and is at the helm of his third minor league franchise. Derek has guided the Saints to successful seasons both on the field and off. The Saints have made the playoffs 11 of his 18 seasons as GM, winning League Championships in both 2019 and 2004 and advancing to the Championship series in 2006, 2007, 2011, and 2018. Off the field the Saints have continued to entertain packed houses, consistently finishing at, or near, the top of their league in attendance in each of their 30 seasons. In 2019 the Saints opened their gates to over 400,000 fans, an average attendance of 8,100 per game, which ranked 8th in all of minor league baseball. The franchise was named American Association Organization of the year from 2015 through 2018, and most recently in 2019, with Sharrer having been recognized as the league’s Executive of the Year in each of those years. Derek played a significant role in the Saints effort to build support for, secure funding for, and finally to design, construct, market, and operate the award-winning ballpark in Lowertown, St. Paul...CHS Field. He was also instrumental in the team’s transition from Independent to Affiliated baseball as the Saints entered into a partnership with the Minnesota Twins making them their Triple-A affiliate.

2:30 BUSES DEPART FOR AIRPORT

 CHS Field

5:00 FLIGHT TO BALTIMORE

 MSP

8:20 ARRIVE IN BALTIMORE

 BWI

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COLUMBIA



GLEN BURNIE



HUNT VALLEY



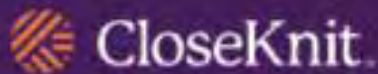
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JACOB TOOK

Communications Associate
Baltimore Metropolitan Council



RENATA COMEAUX

Co-Founder
R2CW



CORY WASHBURN

Co-Founder
R2CW

TRIP ATTENDEES



JEFF AMOROS
Chief of Staff
Anne Arundel County Government



BILL COLE
Partner
Margrave Strategies



CHRISTINE ANDERSON
Chief Administrative Officer
Anne Arundel County Government



BILL COLE
President
Cole Roofing / Gordian Energy Systems



TONY BRIDGES
Assistant Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation



SEAN DAVIS
Principal
MRA, Inc.



MELISSA BROOME
Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs
Baltimore City Public Schools



PHILLIP DODGE
Executive Director
Downtown Columbia Partnership



ANGELA CABELLON
Chief of Staff
Howard County Government



LETITIA DZIRASA MD
Interim Deputy Mayor of Equity, Health
and Human Services
City of Baltimore



STEVE COHOON
Public Facilities Planner
Queen Anne's County Government



DEBORAH EFFINGHAM
Deputy County Administrator
Carroll County Government

TRIP ATTENDEES (CONTINUED)



ADAM ESHELBRENNER

Senior Vice President
The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company



SHAINA HERNANDEZ

Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Wes Moore



GREG FITCHITT

Executive Vice President, Government
Affairs and Business Development
Howard Hughes Corporation



SAFA HIRA

Communications Manager
& Community Liaison
Howard County Government



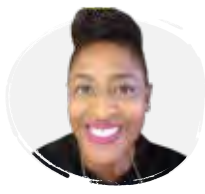
ADAM GENN

Vice President
MCB Real Estate



TALIB HORNE

Director of Baltimore Civic Site
The Annie E. Casey Foundation



TASHA GRESHAM-JAMES

Executive Director
Dundalk Renaissance



FRANCESCA IOFFREDA

Chief Executive Officer
Breakthrough Strategy Partners
Senior Advisor
Bloomberg Center for Cities at Harvard



KATE GRUBB CLARK

Director, Government and
Community Relations
Loyola University Maryland



RICARDO JOHNSON

Executive Vice President, Strategy
and Emerging Business
CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield



SHAE HARRIS

Mid-Atlantic Region Director
JP Morgan Chase



ANTHONY L. JONES

Vice President, External Affairs
CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield



JENNIFER JONES
Chief Executive Officer
*Howard County Economic
Development Authority*



JON LARIA
Partner
Ballard Spahr LLP



KRISTIN JONES BRYCE
Senior Vice President and Chief External
Affairs Officer
University of Maryland Medical System



HOWARD LIBIT
Executive Director
Baltimore Jewish Council



WILL JOVEL
Senior Principal
Design Collective



HON. BROOKE LIERMAN
Comptroller
State of Maryland



KEVIN KELLY
Chief Government Affairs Officer
& Vice President
University of Maryland, Baltimore



KEVIN LOEB
Managing Director, Strategy, Learning
and Evaluation
The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation



DAWN KIRSTAETTER
Director of Government & and
Community Affairs – Beltway Region
Comcast



SAM MCCLURE
Executive Director, The Center for LGBTQ
Health Equity
Chase Brexton Health Care



LIZ KOONTZ
Assistant Deputy Mayor for Community
and Economic Development
City of Baltimore



CAROLINE MOORE
Senior Vice President
Wexford Science + Technology

TRIP ATTENDEES (CONTINUED)



WILLY MOORE
President
Southway Builders, Inc.



DARREN ROGERS
Executive Director
*I AM MENTality Youth Male
Empowerment Project*



ZEEVELLE NOTTINGHAM-LEMON
Executive Director
Cherry Hill Strong



ELISABETH SACHS
Deputy Administrative Officer for Health &
Human Services
Baltimore County Government



RYAN O'DOHERTY
Senior Vice President, External Affairs
Mercy Health Services



TOM SADOWSKI
Executive Director
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SAMANTHA O'NEIL
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Baltimore County Government



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Affairs & Strategic Partnerships
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ORGANIZATION DIRECTORY

African Economic Development Solutions

<https://www.aeds-mn.org/>

African Economic Development Solutions (AEDS) strives to develop business within African immigrant communities in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, helping immigrants create wealth, get out of poverty and share in a booming economy. AEDS helps entrepreneurs in marginalized communities access key resources, institutional frameworks and nourishing environments. Through entrepreneurship promotion, small business development, micro-lending, homeownership education and other community development initiatives, AEDS aims to empower small business owners and to foster financial independence in the region.

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Imagine a restaurant with aromas that awaken your taste buds, music that makes you want to sway and an atmosphere that makes you feel like you're at an international destination. Enter Afro Deli. Patrons describe the atmosphere as a 'community meeting,' where a mix of people – from students to CEOs – have a great experience. The team takes pride in being a socially responsible restaurant that weaves together business with community and culture. All dishes are made fresh and prepared Halal.

Center for Economic Inclusion

<https://www.centerforeconomicinclusion.org/>

Founded in 2017, the Center for Economic Inclusion is the nation's first Black-woman founded and led organization dedicated exclusively to strengthening public- and private-sector civic infrastructures and collective capacity to disrupt systems and influence market forces while advancing an inclusive economy. The Center equips public- and private-sector leaders and employers with the knowledge and tools to build, scale and institutionalize anti-racist workplaces in shared accountability with Black and Brown people to close racial wealth gaps and build racially equitable and inclusive regional economies.

City of St. Louis Park

<https://www.stlouisparkmn.gov/>

St. Louis Park is a first-ring suburb located immediately west of Minneapolis, with just under 49,000 residents in 10.8 square miles. Numerous trails connect the city to parks, downtown Minneapolis and other nearby communities. With a sound economic base, a healthy mix of new and traditional housing, and a nationally renowned school district, new development in St. Louis Park primarily takes the form of infill development and redevelopment in key areas of the community. The city's objective for the three station areas included in the METRO Green Line Extension has been to foster and facilitate transit-supportive redevelopment using transit-oriented development best practices and planning principles.

CHS Field

<https://www.chsfield.com/>

CHS Field is a baseball park in downtown St. Paul, home to the St. Paul Saints, the AAA affiliate of the Minnesota Twins, as well as Hamline University's baseball team. Located in the historic Lowertown District, the park is built on the former site of a long-vacant industrial-use facility. Environmentally friendly features include 300 solar panels generating about 12 percent of the park's energy and a 27,000-gallon rainwater collector. The park is connected to the Bruce Vento Trail, and biking is encouraged.

Ever-Green Energy

<https://www.ever-greenenergy.com/>

Ever-Green Energy, a subsidiary of the nonprofit District Energy St. Paul, provides heating and cooling services to downtown St. Paul. Ever-Green Energy is a green energy provider, and its primary fuel is a renewable, local resource: clean, urban wood waste. The system is the largest hot water district system in North America and an industry leader in system integration featuring biomass-fired cogeneration, thermal storage and solar thermal technology. Ever-Green Energy has been recognized by the United Nations Environment Programme for serving as an international model for best practices.

Downtown East, Minneapolis

<https://www.ryancompanies.com/project/downtown-east>

Downtown East offers easy access to a wide variety of popular dining and entertainment destinations. But the area had long been overlooked, resulting in a sea of surface lots and underutilized real estate. Completed in 2016, a \$588 million, five-block redevelopment project reshaped the Minneapolis urban landscape by bridging the central downtown area to U.S. Bank Stadium (Home of the Minnesota Vikings), the University of Minnesota, the Mill District and the Elliot Park neighborhood. The project included 1.2 million square feet of office space in two 17-story towers, multi-tenant Millwright building, a 200-unit residential complex, a 4.2 acre public greenspace, a hotel, four sky bridges, a six-level parking ramp and 26,000 square feet of retail space.

Greater MSP

<https://www.greatersp.org/>

Greater MSP Partnership serves as a key resource for businesses and individuals looking to relocate, invest, partner and grow in the greater Minneapolis-St. Paul region. Greater MSP Partnership brings together individuals and organizations in support of strategic initiatives that strengthen our region's competitiveness and inclusive economic growth. Each initiative tackles top economic priorities by assembling a coalition of partners from across the region who take action together informed by the data, developing solutions for some of the greatest challenges of the 21st century.

GroundBreak Coalition

<https://groundbreakcoalition.org/>

GroundBreak Coalition is a group of over 40 corporate, civic and philanthropic leaders committed to demonstrating that with enough resources, a racially equitable and carbon-neutral future is possible now – first in Minneapolis-St. Paul and then across the country. GroundBreak Coalition seeks to disrupt the status quo, close long-standing racial disparities and transform communities, deploying flexible private, public and philanthropic capital in the key areas of homeownership, rental housing, commercial development and BIPOC entrepreneurship, uplifting existing community-led solutions wherever possible.

Hmong American Partnership

<https://hmong.org/>

Founded in 1990 to serve Minnesota's growing Hmong population, Hmong American Partnership (HAP) has grown to become the largest organization in the nation dedicated to providing support and resources for the Hmong immigrant and refugee community. HAP offers culturally competent programs in jobs and employment, financial services and business development, social enterprise, housing and more. With a staff reflecting the diversity of the Hmong community, HAP empowers members of this community to embrace cultural strengths while achieving their potential.

LISC Twin Cities

<https://www.lisc.org/twin-cities/>

The Local Initiatives Support Corporation, known as LISC, supports projects to revitalize communities and bring greater economic opportunity to residents. The local office provides capital, strategy and know-how to Twin Cities community development partners. Since 1988, LISC has directly invested more than \$900 million dollars and leveraged \$2.9 billion in additional investment to support local community development projects. As a result, more than 17,000 families have access to affordable places to live, 8,000 people have improved their financial stability and local residents have access to 2.4 million square feet of new or renovated community and commercial space.

Malcolm Yards

<https://www.malcolmyards.com/>

Located in the historic Minneapolis, MN Prospect Park neighborhood, Malcolm Yards is a modern community built with roots in the past. Malcolm Yards has a long history of industrial uses, including manufacturing, foundry, grain storage and milling support. Most recently, the site housed part of Factory Lumbers operations as a wood supply, milling and cutting operation, which ceased 2015. The site has been largely vacant since, but redevelopment has breathed new life into the area. From the Market to the Office, from Surly to O'Shaughnessy's distillery, each amenity embraces the soul of the neighborhood with a vision to invent and improve.

The Market at Malcolm Yards

<https://malcolmyards.market/>

The Market at Malcolm Yards is housed in the historic Harris Machinery Building, across from the iconic United Crushers grain silos located in the Prospect Park neighborhood of Minneapolis. The Market has nine kitchens, a bar and an innovative self-pour tap wall with beer, wine and non-alcoholic offerings. But the Market is more than just a food hall – it’s a community supporting food and drink innovation, an incubator empowering chefs and a space to house the diverse flavors and experiences of the region.

Metropolitan Council

<https://metro council.org/>

The Metropolitan Council is the regional policy-making body, planning agency, and provider of essential services in the seven-county Twin Cities metro area, with a mission of fostering efficient and economic growth for a prosperous region. The Met Council provides services and infrastructure including Metro Transit’s bus and rail system, Metro Mobility, Transit Link, wastewater treatment services, regional parks, planning and affordable housing. Funding sources include state and federal funds, a seven-county property tax and user fees.

Midtown Global Market

<https://midtownglobalmarket.org/>

Owned by two non-profit entities: the Cultural Wellness Center and the Neighborhood Development Center, the Market serves as a small business incubator whose mission is to provide access and opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs. Together these entities make up a dynamic community gathering place that highlights and promotes the economic, social and cultural assets of Minnesota and celebrates the healthy foods, arts, crafts and other aspects of the region’s diverse heritage. The market is home to over 50 vendors including diverse restaurants, specialty grocery items, and locally made crafts and goods. Over 1.5 million people visit the market every year.

Midtown Greenway

<https://midtowngreenway.org/>

The Midtown Greenway is a 5.5-mile long former railroad corridor in south Minneapolis owned by the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority with bicycling and

walking trails maintained by the City of Minneapolis. The Midtown Greenway Coalition, the grassroots organization that advocated for installation of the Midtown Greenway, continues to engage the community in protecting, improving and using the Greenway. The trails are plowed in winter, lit at night and open 24/7, with thousands of daily users in temperate weather and hundreds even in winter.

Mill City Museum

<https://www.mnhs.org/millcity>

Mill City Museum was built within the ruins of the Washburn A Mill, the flagship mill of the Washburn-Crosby Co. (later General Mills) and the largest and most technologically advanced flour mill in the world on its completion in 1880. Mill City Museum is an adventure for the senses. See 19th-century flour milling machines, trace the journey of wheat from farm to market and learn about how wheat milled in Minnesota affected what people eat around the world.

Owamni by the Sioux Chef

<https://owamni.com/>

Owamni is the first locally Indigenous restaurant in a major U.S. city, offering a ‘decolonized’ dining experience that’s Dakota inspired and on Dakota land. James Beard Award-winning Chef Sean Sherman, Oglala Lakota, founded the catering and food education business The Sioux Chef and works to make indigenous foods more accessible through Owamni and other ventures including the North American Traditional Indigenous Food Systems (NATIFS) nonprofit and the Indigenous Food Lab in Midtown Global Market.

Reconnect Rondo

<https://reconnectrondo.com/>

Reconnect Rondo advocates to create Minnesota’s first African American cultural enterprise district connected by a community land bridge, helping to repair, restore and revitalize St. Paul’s Rondo neighborhood, which was shattered with the 1956-1968 construction of Interstate 94. The Rondo land bridge would cap Interstate 94 for several blocks, making up for the loss of over 700 homes and 300 businesses. The group’s vision is to become an admired national model for equitable development success, known for leading a restorative movement in Minnesota.

Rondo Neighborhood, St. Paul

<https://libguides.mnhs.org/rondo>

Rondo was the heart of St. Paul's African American community, housing the majority of African American residents in the city and numerous businesses, organizations and institutions. In the late 1950s, construction of Interstate 94 connecting downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul shattered this community. Opponents suggested an alternative route along the railroad north of the neighborhood, but officials cited efficiency in approving the route that split Rondo and forced the relocation of hundreds of people. This history informed construction of Metro's Green Line light rail service, which opened in 2014. In February of this year, Rondo was awarded a \$2m Reconnecting Communities grant to fund planning, studies and analysis as part of the land bridge's master plan. This move is helping to fuel optimism that a growing portion of the land bridge and surrounding economic development may well be supported by federal funding.

St. Paul Area Chamber

<https://www.stpaulchamber.com/>

The St. Paul Area Chamber is a dynamic network organized to deliver opportunity, championing a diverse employer community for an economically vibrant, inclusive and globally competitive region. From entrepreneurs starting up to mission-based nonprofits to Fortune 500 multinational corporations, more than 1,700 companies and organizations belong to the Chamber. The organization gives members an edge in a competitive marketplace with networking opportunities, connections to resources, exceptional events and powerful advocacy efforts.

St Paul Port Authority

<https://sppa.com/>

Established by the Minnesota legislature in 1929 as a non-profit governmental agency to manage the St. Paul Harbor, the St. Paul Port Authority now owns and operates four port facilities along the Mississippi River in St. Paul. As the nation's 13th largest inland port by tonnage, the St. Paul Harbor provides critical links to Minnesota's rail and roadway freight networks. The St. Paul Port Authority also developed a number of inland business centers, many on land restored from pollution, which are home to some 500 companies.

U.S. Bank Stadium

<https://www.usbankstadium.com/>

U.S. Bank Stadium is a state-of-the-art, multi-purpose facility and home of the NFL's Minnesota Vikings. This architectural landmark features a striking silhouette, five large glass pivoting doors, and zinc metal exterior panels. The translucent ETFE roof was the first of its kind in NFL stadiums. Following a groundbreaking ceremony on December 3, 2013, the stadium was built in two-and-a-half years and completed six weeks early. The project achieved unparalleled local workforce and business participation that far exceeded the goals for the project. Furthermore, the project spurred \$1 billion in surrounding development, including 1.2 million square feet of office space, 28,000 square feet of retail, approximately 400 residential units, and a 4.2-acre green space.

West Indies Soul Food

<https://www.westindiessoulfoods.com/who-we-are>

Growing up surrounded by multicultural Caribbean character and the homegrown calypso soundtrack of the West Indies, Sharon Richard-Noel moved to friendly Minnesota in 1982. She immediately began sharing her love for authentic Caribbean cuisine in the Rondo community and beyond, quickly earning a reputation for her talent in creating and perfecting recipes. Over 30 years, West Indies Soul has grown its product line and has collaborated with Market Distributing to distribute its signature sauces into select grocery stores in the region.

Wilder Foundation

<https://www.wilder.org/>

The Amherst H. Wilder Foundation is a nonprofit community organization that creates lasting, positive change rooted in people through direct services, research and community building. The Wilder Foundation is the namesake of Amherst H. Wilder (1828-1894), a businessman who established a trust fund in his will. This fund seeded the Amherst H. Wilder Charity, which has since endeavored to provide responsive human services and adapt to the changing needs of the greater St. Paul community. The Wilder Foundation also supports Minnesota Compass, an effort to measure progress on topics related to quality of life in Minnesota by providing credible, easy-to-access data and tracking trends to inform decision-making among community leaders.

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ABOUT CHESAPEAKE CONNECT

Chesapeake Connect is a program of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC), our region's council of governments. BMC's member jurisdictions include Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard and Queen Anne's Counties. Now in its sixth year, Chesapeake Connect brings together leaders from in and around Baltimore to explore and learn from a region outside of our own.

Chesapeake Connect's objectives are two-fold. First, the trip provides an insider's perspective on the strengths and struggles of a peer metropolitan area. Second, the experience is a forum for civic-minded leaders from the Baltimore region to strengthen and expand their own networks and relationships.

BMC's Board of Directors nominates all participants in the program. BMC staff has worked closely with leaders from the Twin Cities to create an agenda that paints a realistic picture of our host region and highlights programs and innovations we can bring back to Baltimore.

ABOUT BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) works collaboratively with the chief elected officials in the region to create initiatives to improve our quality of life and economic vitality. BMC supports local governments by coordinating efforts in a range of policy areas including transportation, housing, workforce development and environmental planning.

BMC's Board of Directors includes the mayor of the City of Baltimore; the Executives of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford, and Howard counties; a member of both the Carroll County and Queen Anne's County boards of commissioners; a member of the Maryland State Senate; a member of the Maryland House of Delegates; and a gubernatorial appointee from the private sector.



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