

April 15, 2013

## **Rochester Area Foundation State of Support for Destination Medical Center**

As the community's endowment, the Rochester Area Foundation Board of Trustees unanimously passed a resolution in support of Destination Medical Center (DMC).

The Rochester Area Foundation is proud to have been the vision of Mr. Harry Harwick, a longtime Chief Administrative Officer of the Mayo Foundation. He and his community contemporaries forged this vehicle in 1944 to make a positive impact, assisting those in need. That vision remains a bulwark of our work to this day. The Rochester Area Foundation has a continuous record of partnering in philanthropy with Mayo Clinic and many other employers and individuals to improve the quality of life in the region since our very beginning.

DMC represents one of the most important economic development initiatives that will deliver significant benefits to the people of Minnesota, including more than \$5 billion in private investment, thousands of new jobs and billions in new tax revenues over 20 years that will not occur without the DMC investment. We believe the economic growth that will result from DMC will make a significant difference in our region and our state by improving the quality of life for all. Transportation, access to affordable housing, access to healthcare, safer public infrastructure and job creation are all issues as legislators you work on every day to better. This project encompasses all these and more. It truly is a unique opportunity for our state.

We strongly urge both the Minnesota Senate and the House of Representatives to pass the legislation.

Mayo is without equal as a regional and state asset. It is the largest private sector employer in Minnesota and our community values the strong partnership we share with Mayo Clinic as together we plan for our future. DMC will help enhance and strengthen Minnesota as one of the premier national and international destinations for health care in the world. Plans to develop DMC offer a unique vehicle providing infrastructure and community support in a low risk manner, ensuring that not a dollar is spent before state tax revenue increases as a result of DMC driven economic growth. Mayo Clinic's proposed multi-billion dollar investment in and around its current Rochester facilities will secure its place and Minnesota's as a worldwide leader in health care.

The opportunity to strengthen Minnesota as the premier destination for health care is in the best interests of our region, our state and nation and arguably the world and we emphatically urge your support.

Sincerely,

John W. Benike

John Benike Board Chair

JoAnn Stormer President