



March 6, 2018

MAR 08 2018

David Frank, Director
Minneapolis CPED
105 5th Ave S #200,
Minneapolis, MN 55401

HENNEPIN COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION

David J. Hough
Hennepin County Administrator
A-2303 Government Center
300 South 6th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55487-0233

Re: Blue Line Opportunity Zone

Messrs. Frank and Hough:

As a group, we are asking that the City, County and State select the six most distressed low income eligible census tracts around the Cedar-Riverside, Franklin and Lake Street station areas (104800, 106000, 106200, 107400, 108800 and 125900) along with the additional job center census tract at their core (107500) as a contiguous Qualified Opportunity Zone under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

These census tracts are highly impacted by poverty. Neither the previous housing boom nor the current economic prosperity has resulted in significant investment in these communities. Even the promise of Light Rail Transit has not lifted the underserved communities served by the Cedar Riverside, Franklin and Lake Street station areas. These neighborhoods continue to have high poverty rates and all of the associated negative impacts associated with the lack of investment.

An Opportunity Zone designation will provide incentives for the private market to invest here. We propose a zone consisting of six "Most Distressed" tracts along with another eligible contiguous tract - 107500 - an industrial area with high potential to create new jobs for nearby residents.

Our organizations are committed to working together to operationalize this resource and, between us, have all of the experience and tools to implement real estate and economic development in Seward, Greater Longfellow and Venture Village. Local business associations are also committed to providing information and support that will help ensure that a designation of this area will benefit the City, County and State.



Designation of this zone will promote equity by bringing the private market's attention to areas that otherwise experience structural redlining and disinvestment. The tax-advantaged private investment provided by this designation will also leverage existing public investment in transit. In addition, designation of this zone leverages the capacity for implementation that already exists with organizations in the area.

Brian A Miller
Seward Redesign, Inc.

Michael A Goze
American Indian CDC

Allison Sharkey

SS
Jamie Schumacher

Lake Street Council

West Bank Business Association

Ruth Romano

Frank

Longfellow Business Association

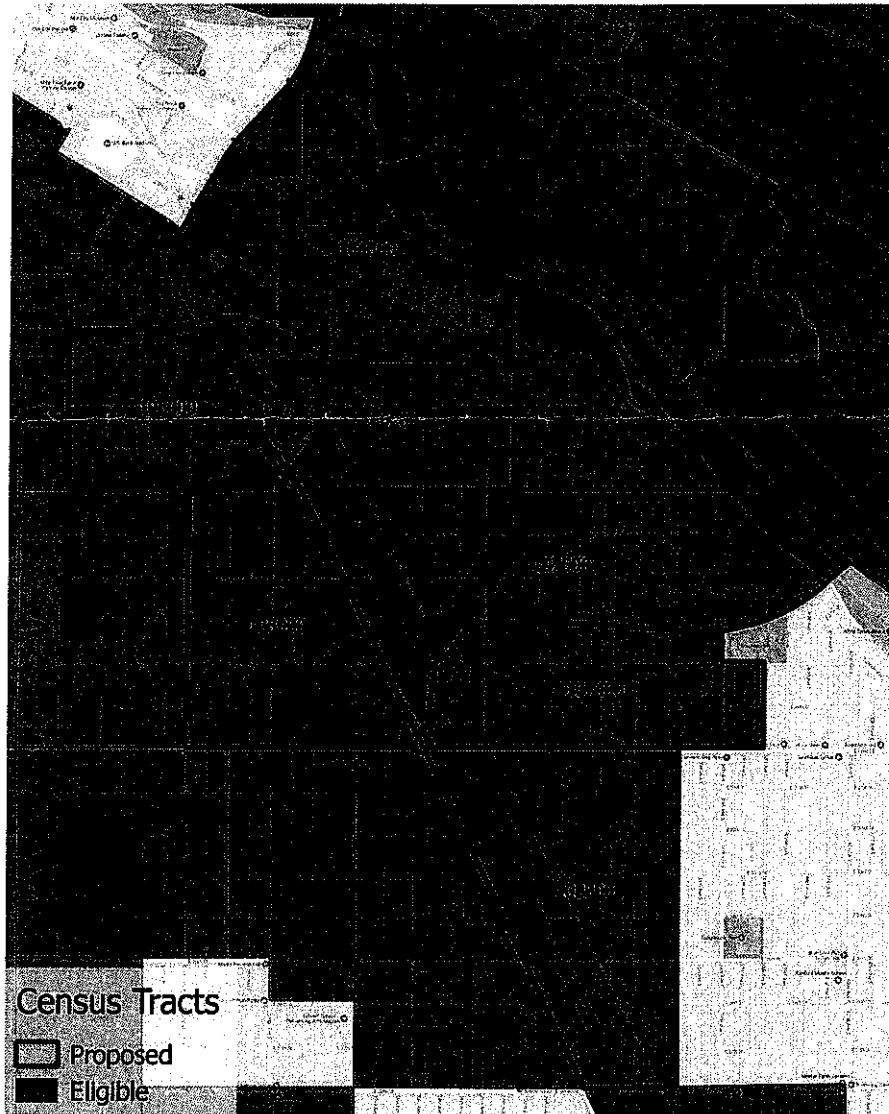
Seward Civic and Commerce Association

Robert Gillegi
Native American Community Development Institute

Cc: Councilmember Cam Gordon, Councilmember Abdi Warsame, Councilmember Alondra Cano, Council President Lisa Bender, Mayor Jacob Frey, Commissioner Peter McLaughlin.



South Minneapolis Blue Line Opportunity Zone



Station	Tract Number & Designation	% Area Median Income	% Living in Poverty	Unemployment Rate
Cedar-Riverside	104800 - Eligible	30.57%	47.30%	12.70%
Franklin	106200 - Eligible	43.56%	41.80%	9.20%
Franklin	106000 - Eligible	15.89%	60.40%	13.90%
Lake Street	107500 - Eligible	95.85%	8%	3.50%
Lake Street	125900 - Eligible	45.98%	41.20%	12.10%
Lake Street	107400 - Eligible	55.13%	14.80%	7.50%
Lake Street	108800 - Eligible	48.37%	20.60%	4.90%