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CONTACT:
Brian McClung: 612-965-2729
brian@mcclungpr.com

Judy Johnson: 763-450-2226
judy@twinwest.com

Business community leaders renew commitment to Southwest Light Rail & regional transit

Minneapolis/Saint Paul/Plymouth/Eden Prairie/Edina, MN — The Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce, Eden Prairie Chamber of Commerce, Edina Chamber of Commerce, Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce, and TwinWest Chamber of Commerce are committed to securing financing for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SW LRT) line that would serve a wide swath of the southwest metro including Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, Edina, Hopkins, Minnetonka, and Eden Prairie.

For the last year, the Chambers have worked to raise awareness of the need for improved transportation options in the region, including SW LRT. The work has included outreach to and conversation with citizens, policymakers, members of the statewide business community, and local and regional governments.

The need for more jobs and less traffic, and for SW LRT, remains. The Chambers' work will continue with the new legislature to ensure that Minnesota moves forward with this important economic development investment.

On behalf of the state's five largest local Chambers of Commerce, TwinWest Chamber Director of Government Affairs Judy Johnson issued the following statement:

"Discussions before the election were a great opportunity for us to educate voters and candidates about the need to improve transportation options in the southwest metro. This is one of the fastest growing parts of the Twin Cities and the state. Projected job growth requires better transportation to serve those employees and maintain our quality of life.

"Our goals remain the same: we need an all of the above approach to investing in transportation. We look forward to working with new and returning legislators to build Southwest LRT, provide 10 million rides a year, improve our region's quality of life, and reduce traffic congestion."