

November 11, 2009

Ardell F. Brede  
City of Rochester Mayor  
Room 281, City Hall  
Rochester, MN 55904

Dennis Hanson  
City Council President  
2004 24 ½ Lane SE  
Rochester, MN 55904

Dear Mayor Brede and President Hanson:

Mayo Clinic supports the proposal to expand and renovate the Mayo Civic Center.

Mayo Clinic has long been fortunate to have a strong working relationship with the community of Rochester and Mayo Civic Center. In 1938, Dr. Charles Mayo invested financially in the expansion of Mayo Civic Center. Those investments are reflective of Mayo Clinic's historical commitment to sustain and grow the important role that Mayo Civic Center plays in the vitality and growth of our community.

Today, our community stands at the crossroads of exciting growth opportunities. As we collectively focus on what it means to create an integrated community, Mayo partnership around the concept of "Destination Medical Community" with a coordinated downtown development plan, the Civic Center is an important component of that vision.

The organizations and businesses that have served as the backbone of our community continue to grow and thrive. The presence and promise of the University of Minnesota Rochester and the work of the Rochester Downtown Alliance have added significant vitality to the downtown area. The Mayo Clinic and the University of Minnesota continue to build the Minnesota Partnership for Biotechnology and Medical Genomics which continues to create opportunities for growth. In addition, the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine has completed a 2020 Strategic Plan for space needs, and conclude that they need large (partitionable), diversified, multi-purpose, high technology equipped spaces to facilitate skills courses, competency testing and capacity for distance learning. The renovated Civic Center would provide spaces to support these growing activities.

The expansion and renovation of Mayo Civic Center will play a pivotal role in plans to capitalize on the strong momentum to further position Minnesota as a national leader in health care, scientific research and the life sciences. And it would support the continued development of Rochester, Minnesota as the premier destination medical community.

Sincerely,



Glenn S. Forbes, M.D., Chair  
State Government Affairs Committee



Franklin W. Iossi  
Director, State Government Affairs