

RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING HENNEPIN COUNTY TO EXPLORE OPTIONS
FOR MAKING THE SOO LINE COMMUNITY GARDEN SITE A
PERMANENT COMMUNITY GARDEN

Passed by the Midtown Greenway Coalition board of directors on 10/27/05

WHEREAS Soo Line Community Garden has, for fourteen years, provided an example of community-based stewardship of open green space,

WHEREAS community gardening provides a model for sustainable maintenance and stewardship of open green space proven effective across the country and throughout the world,

WHEREAS increasing high density development in Minneapolis means many residents do not have individually held yards on which to develop the connection to the natural world that gardening provides,

WHEREAS gardening is a recreational activity appropriate to all age groups, and community gardens build community across social, economic, cultural, and generational barriers,

WHEREAS Soo Line Community Garden offers employment opportunities for youth and organic produce to families,

WHEREAS Soo Line Community Garden provides habitat for wildlife and native plants and permeable surface that reduces storm water runoff,

WHEREAS the fourteen year history of Soo Line Community Garden represents an investment of hundreds of thousands of dollars of sweat equity, educational activity, soil amendment, beautification, volunteer effort, and neighborhood development,

WHEREAS Whittier Neighborhood continues its long-term support of Soo Line Community Garden and has included the present Soo Line site as a community garden in its South Whittier Land Use plan.

WHEREAS Soo Line Community Garden has worked successfully as a partner with the Midtown Greenway Coalition, including the recent creation of the memorial to Devin Moen along the Greenway edge,

WHEREAS Soo Line Community Garden provides informal access to the Greenway and will continue to keep the site open to the community as a showcase of cooperation between residents, business, non-profit organizations, and government,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Midtown Greenway Coalition encourages Hennepin County, as the administrator of the Soo Line Community Garden site, to work with Soo Line Community Garden and other community partners to identify opportunities to make the existing Soo Line Community Garden at 2845 Garfield Ave S. a permanent community garden on the Midtown Greenway.