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SUBJECT: Mayor and community members unveil Prosperity Agenda

BY: Pakou Ly

Mayor and community members unveil Prosperity Agenda

The City of Duluth is partnering with several key community leaders to set Duluth on the path to prosperity by increasing income and assets of all Duluth residents. By harnessing existing talent and resources, the Duluth Prosperity Agenda team will organize resources, build collaborations, and explore long-term community investments with the goal of increasing community prosperity.

“Patience and long term investments are needed to build sustainable prosperity now and into the future,” says Mayor Ness. “With coordinated community investments, we will see positive outcomes in the creation of jobs, increased wages, a more productive workforce and healthy and viable neighborhoods.”

A key element of the effort is the “Prosperity Index” used to measure Duluth’s progress in creating and sustaining prosperity. The Index, created in partnership with the state Department of Employment and Economic Development, will track progress in the five key sectors. The Index base year is 2009 and progress will be measured from that point forward.

The Duluth Prosperity Agenda consists of members from the non-profit, education, business, housing, social service, and government sectors. The group plans to develop work plans and strategies that impact: housing, education, business climate, income/poverty, and the workforce. Each group will engage community members and develop objectives and strategies to increase economic growth and widely shared prosperity.

The Prosperity Agenda working groups plan to meet over the next several months to develop work plans. Data will be collected and analyzed on an annual basis.

Additional information is available at the Duluth Prosperity Agenda website:

http://www.duluthmn.gov/duluth_prosperity_agenda

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