



LETTERS

Readers Write: Vaccine incentives, responsibility for violence, tax credits

LEGISLATURE

Please save this tax credit

We, as business owners, organizations and residents of Minnesota, are gravely concerned about the potential blockage of the extension for Minnesota's historic tax credit by leaders at the Capitol. As Minnesota recovers from job losses sustained from the COVID-19 pandemic, we need every tool available to invest in our infrastructure and the jobs required to build and maintain our towns and cities. The proven record of the historic tax credit is indisputable — for every \$1.00 invested, \$9.50 is generated for Minnesota, totaling \$3.5 billion since 2010.

Now, members of the Legislature are in budget negotiations and are seriously considering not extending this proven tool, citing budget constraints. We know the impact historic tax credit projects have on our towns and cities, creating jobs before and after construction, supporting local and small businesses and preserving Minnesota's most historic, and iconic, buildings. We are disheartened that the economic benefits — 18,650 jobs in the past 10 years alone — for Minnesotans are not centered in budget discussions, especially given the statewide successes and broad bipartisan support. If the historic tax credit is allowed to sunset, Minnesota will fall behind our neighboring states like Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin that have protected their historic tax credits, as well as the 38 other states that have maintained their historic tax credits, like Mississippi and Louisiana.

Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka, House Speaker Melissa Hortman, and Gov. Tim Walz, please listen to constituents throughout the state and extend Minnesota's historic tax credit.



This letter was signed by: Heidi Swank, Rethos, St. Paul; Chris Sherman, Sherman Associates, Minneapolis; Steve Knight, Weis Builders, Minneapolis; Peter Noonan, Commerce Bank, Edina; JeriLynn Young, U.S. Bancorp Community Development Corporation; Elizabeth Gales, Hess Roise and Company, Minneapolis; Carter Vargo, RJM Construction, Golden Valley; Brent Rogers, Saturday Properties, St. Louis Park; Brian & Kent Roers, Roers, Minnetonka; Don Kohlenberger, Hightower Initiatives; Gary Thaden, Minnesota Mechanical Contractors Association, Minnetonka; Gary Thaden, Minnesota Contractors of National Electrical Contractors Association, St. Paul; Andy Swartz, Blumentals Architecture Inc, Minneapolis; Meghan Elliott, New History, Minneapolis; Kevin W. Howat, NAIOP Minnesota, Minneapolis; Mary-Margaret Zindren, AIA-MN, Minneapolis; Harry Melander, Minnesota State Building and Construction Trades Council, St. Paul; Barb Lau, Association of Women Contractors, St. Paul; David Ybarra, Minnesota Pipe Trades Association, Zumbrota; Tim Worke, Associated General Contractors of MN, St. Paul; Erik Hansen, Burns and Hansen, Minneapolis; Tony Simmons, The Simmons Group, Minneapolis; Collin Kaas, Kaas Wilson Architects, Bloomington; Wendy Ethen, Guaranty Commercial Title Inc, Minneapolis; Paul Warshauer, Grande Venues, Sleepy Eye; Jane Bisel, Blue Planet Museum Consulting LLC, Rochester; Michelle Dreier, Electrical Association, Minneapolis; Ryan Sailer, Timberland Partners, Minneapolis; Patrick Wolf, Enhanced Historic Credit Partners, St. Louis, Mo.; Adam Duinick, North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters, St. Paul; Paul Halonen, B&P Drywall and Construction, Dassel; Traci and Hunter Downs, CMD Holdings LLC, Rochester; Chris Webley, NEW RULES, Minneapolis; Kristen Olson, Major Mechanical LLC, Maple Grove; Mike Benike, Benike Construction, Rochester; Phil Waugh, LHB Inc, Minneapolis; Matthew Legge, Polaris Properties, Minneapolis; Grant Carlson, Blue Limit LLC, Minneapolis; Jude Homola, Windsor Engineers, Duluth; Jon Commers, Visible City, St. Paul; Bridget A. Hust, Hust Law, Minneapolis; JoAnna Hicks, Element Commercial Real Estate, Minneapolis; Merrie Sjogren, Eddie Landenberger, Beth Pfeifer, Assembly MN, Minneapolis.