



Highland District Council
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Neighborhood STAR Program
Dept of Planning and Economic Development
1400 City Hall Annex
25 West Fourth Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-1622

To the Neighborhood STAR Board:

The Highland District Council would like to submit this letter of support for the expansion project at Circus Juventas. The District Council supports Circus Juventas because it greatly benefits its participants, audience members, and the community at large.

Circus Juventas allows children who are not interested in organized sports to be involved in an active, engaging and physically demanding program. It teaches discipline, focus, concentration and artistic skill. The circus has brought in employees from around the world to share their gifts with students in this region.

Circus Juventas is an asset to both the Highland Park neighborhood and to the City of St Paul. More than 10 percent of its students live in Highland. More than 20,000 people attended circus shows, bringing people from around the region to our neighborhood and St. Paul, often patronizing businesses in our neighborhood.

The circus is a good neighbor. It provides classes for the Highland Friendship Club and partners with Neighborhood House to offer scholarship classes, among other efforts.

The Highland Park District 15 Plan states under Goal 1 (page 59):

- Maintain and expand recreational facilities to meet the needs of Highland residents,
- Create public/private collaborations to support best recreational programming as stated in the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Plan
- Support non-profit organizations that promote recreational opportunities for youth (such as Highland-Groveland Recreational Association and Circus Juventas)

There's little question the proposed project will be beneficial to Highland Park and the City of Saint Paul. We are delighted that Circus Juventas is staying in Highland and expanding and we know its leadership will work closely with the City on a successful expansion.

Sincerely,

Highland District Council Board of Directors

Resolution 2014-07D