

#### **Ramsey County Board Workshop:**

#### **Corporate Naming Rights**

**Economic Growth and Community Investment** 

February 5, 2019

Estimated start: 9:45 a.m.

220 Courthouse, Large Conference Room

#### **Agenda**

1. Introduction

Johanna Berg, Deputy County Manager, Economic Growth and Community Investment Service Team

2. Presentation

Johanna Berg, Deputy County Manager

3. Discussion, Questions



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## **Current Facilities Naming Policy**

- Resolution 98-417 guides naming of county facilities
  - Buildings, parks, and open space; parts of facilities
  - Should be named for "geographical or natural features"
  - May be named after individuals who have "made an exceptional contribution of time (service) or funding"
- Recommendations of names to Board for approval made by:
  - Citizen advisory board/committee connected to the facility, and
  - Commissioner representing district where facility is located



#### **Comprehensive Review Needed**

- This will be a longer-term effort
- Clarify guidelines for acceptable names
- Review proposal/approval processes
- Need full consideration of historical and social considerations



#### **Corporate Naming Rights**

- More urgently, we need guidelines for naming rights to assist VHEDC in search for partners
- Current naming policy not applicable
  - Limited to geographic features and individuals
  - Vague criteria for individuals' names
  - Potentially lengthy approval process
  - Names not time-limited
- Need interim, informal guidelines for near-term use



### **Proposed Parameters for Naming Rights**

- Names should be consistent with County's mission, vision, and goals
- Names should be suitable for families and be welcoming and accessible
- No reference to alcohol, tobacco, or sex (per ice arena's advertising policy)
- Corporate name should have some connection or relationship to the theme or use of facility



### **Proposed Terms and Process of Naming Rights**

- County Manager recommends approval to board
- County Board has final authority to approve names
- Naming agreements will be time-limited
- If partner or name comes into disrepute in the community, county may recommend that the name be discontinued; funding will not be returned



## **Request to County Board**

- 1. Does the County Board agree upon the proposed parameters and terms of the naming rights guidelines for us to move forward with seeking funding for the Vadnais Heights Complex?
- 2. Does the County Board approve directing county staff to immediately move forward on an open and competitive solicitation process for the naming rights of the Vadnais Heights Complex?