

## Support for the Southwest LRT Project

“Part of the health of our metro area is investment in transportation infrastructure. The TwinWest Chamber understands that growth of business, jobs and people in the area requires a transportation system for the future that improves roads, bridges and transit. We believe businesses will grow the economic base of the area, and we know a strong transit infrastructure along with roads and bridges will support job growth in the west metro.”

- **Brad Meier**, President of the **TwinWest Chamber**

“It's a local project with local contractors. It's a project we're looking forward to bidding [on].”

- **Justin Gabrielson, Ames Kramer Joint Venture**, speaking about SWLRT (*KSTP-TV, 10/21/15*)

“The ease and speed that light rail provides to riders should prove to greatly benefit the Twin Cities – and in fact the entire state – for decades to come. Building the Southwest LRT project is a significant investment in tomorrow – future residents, workers and metro-area visitors. We urge our city, county, metro and state leaders to work together to move this project along.”

- **ECM Publishers Editorial** (*8/11/15*)

“We...may see increased development in that area, even before the LRT opens. They're really setting the stage for development.”

- **Janet Jeremiah**, Eden Prairie Community Development Director (*Sun-Current, 12/10/15*)

“SWLRT will provide us greater access to the geographically spread-out Twin Cities workforce which, in turn, will make us more competitive in the job market. There's no question that there's upside to having a public transit system situated adjacent to a business.”

- **David Dalquist, Nordic Ware CEO**, based in St. Louis Park

“To be sure, the Southwest process has been difficult. But the economic and environmental benefits of the line would make the effort worthwhile.”

- **Star Tribune** editorial (*7/7/15*)

“This (SWLRT) is economic development for the people that live in the neighborhood. They have that opportunity to decide and do the job because they'll own it, they'll use it and they'll maintain it.”

- **Susan Rani**, president of **Rani Engineering**, Minneapolis-based DBE (*Finance & Commerce, 10/22/15*)

“Southwest Light Rail would make my commute a bit shorter and more direct,” said Janelle, who takes buses three days a week to Shady Oak Road and Highway 62 and drives his family car two days a week. “It’s more of a challenge in the winter months to try to piece together the commute. If the express bus doesn’t work out, I take the city bus route 12. If I work late, I have to walk three-quarters of a mile which is OK for me but for people who are older it would be a bit tougher.”

- **Peter Janelle, Minneapolis resident** who works at **UnitedHealthcare** in Minnetonka

“Providing quality care begins with hiring and retaining the best possible staff. Not all of our 50-plus employees currently have dependable private transportation, which creates stress for them and our leadership team. A fully functioning LRT will expand our labor pool and reduce stress among our caregivers, which translates directly to better care for our seniors and children. In addition, we have many senior residents who no longer drive. The ability to offer activities accessible by LRT will create excitement and energy for both our day-care children and senior residents.”

- **Greg Zoidis, Managing Partner of TowerLight** Senior Living and Child Day Care in St. Louis Park