



AGENDA ITEM #10.6

REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Report Prepared by: Nancy Malecha

Date: December 3, 2019

Subject: Respect Minnesota Pledge Resolution

Report: At the November 5th City Council Meeting, Joe Kramer and Erin Lang presented the Respect Minnesota Pledge. The Council tabled this item and requested it be placed on the December 3rd agenda for consideration.

Respect Minnesota is a pledge to honor and respect people and their opinions and to provide a safe environment for everyone during the planning, permitting, and construction of infrastructure projects. It aims to establish common ground and encourages respecting the rights of people's freedom of speech and personal safety.

Council Action Requested:

1. Council motion removing the Respect Minnesota Pledge resolution from the table.
2. Council motion adopting the resolution supporting the Respect Minnesota Pledge.

**CITY OF PEQUOT LAKES
RESOLUTION 19-___**

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RESPECT MINNESOTA PLEDGE

WHEREAS, the Pequot Lakes Mayor has signed a resolution of support for said pledge in accordance with the Respect Minnesota movement;

WHEREAS, as a result the City of Pequot Lakes will abide by the Respect Minnesota pledge including the individuals, businesses, nonprofits and organizations that reside in the boundaries of Pequot Lakes;

WHEREAS, the City of Pequot Lakes will support free speech and a safe environment for everyone;

WHEREAS, the City of Pequot Lakes will listen, be inclusive and look for common ground;

WHEREAS, the City of Pequot Lakes will respect others, our natural environment, and local communities;

WHEREAS, the City of Pequot Lakes will respect the cultural heritage and history of the indigenous people; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pequot Lakes will be accountable for their words and actions and abide by the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF PEQUOT LAKES, MINNESOTA hereby supports the Respect Minnesota pledge.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Pequot Lakes this 3rd day of December, 2019.

ATTEST:

James Tayloe
Mayor

Nancy Malecha
City Administrator



RESPECT MINNESOTA TOOLKIT
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Overview of Respect Minnesota	2
Why Respect Minnesota?	3
How to Engage a Local Government	4
Expectations	5



OVERVIEW OF RESPECT MINNESOTA

Respect Minnesota is a pledge to honor and respect people and their opinions. The pledge demonstrates a commitment and promise to provide a safe environment for everyone, especially those who share different opinions on contentious issues and/or sizeable projects that impact communities.

Respect Minnesota aims to create common ground and encourages respecting the rights of freedom of speech and personal safety.

THE PLEDGE:

I support free speech and a safe environment for everyone.

I will listen, be inclusive and look for common ground.

I will respect others, our natural environment, and local communities.

I will respect the cultural heritage and history of the indigenous people.

I will be accountable for my words and actions and abide by the law.

Let's move forward together.

Respect Minnesota

If you haven't signed
the pledge yet, you
can do so now at
respectminnesota.org





WHY RESPECT MINNESOTA?

Minnesotans are active and informed citizens who care deeply about issues that affect their state. Major infrastructure projects, such as Enbridge's Line 3 Replacement Project, spark meaningful conversations amongst neighbors across the state. While these projects often times ignite passionate and differing opinions, it's important that we all remember to speak to each other with respect and recognize one's right to freedom of speech and the feeling of safety.

RESPECT MINNESOTA IS VALUABLE FOR MANY REASONS, INCLUDING:

- Promotes respect and civility.
- Focuses on common ground and shared values, not divisiveness.
- A pledge is a word of honor, a commitment, a bond that holds everyone to the same standard for their words and actions.
- Shows commitment to listening to everyone and a respect for different ideas, cultures and personal history.
- Gives people tools to better interact in and de-escalate tense situations so that everyone can do their jobs, state their opinions and go home safely.
- Serves as a reminder to listen, speak and act with respect and integrity.



RESPECTMINNESOTA.ORG



HOW TO ENGAGE A LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OUTREACH

Respect Minnesota focuses on connecting with communities where infrastructure projects are occurring. Respect Minnesota can help local governments set a positive tone for upcoming infrastructure projects. Respect Minnesota's message and pledge can be launched jointly with community leaders and government officials before and during projects.

1. City Council or County Board Resolution

Local governments can benefit greatly by passing a Respect Minnesota resolution that aims to incorporate the Respect Minnesota pledge into their governing bodies and their communities by promoting free speech and encouraging respect.

EXAMPLE RESOLUTION

A resolution authorizing the abidance of the Respect Minnesota Pledge by the INSERT NAME City/County Council.

WHEREAS, _____ (Mayor) has signed a resolution of support for said pledge in accordance with the Respect Minnesota movement.

WHEREAS, as a result, CITY/COUNTY NAME will abide by the Respect Minnesota pledge including the individuals, businesses, nonprofits and organizations that reside in the boundaries of CITY/COUNTY NAME.

WHEREAS, CITY/COUNTY NAME will support free speech and a safe environment for everyone.

WHEREAS, CITY/COUNTY NAME will listen, be inclusive and look for common ground.

WHEREAS, CITY/COUNTY NAME will respect others, our natural environment, and local communities.

WHEREAS, CITY/COUNTY NAME will respect the cultural heritage and history of the indigenous people.

WHEREAS, CITY/COUNTY NAME will be accountable for their words and actions and abide by the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City/County Council of _____ hereby supporters the Respect Minnesota pledge.

2. Sign the Pledge as Individuals

Individual leaders within the community are invited to take the Respect Minnesota pledge as they vow to listen and be inclusive.

Each person has a network that can benefit from the Respect Minnesota pledge. An effective way to gain awareness of the pledge is by emailing your group and explaining the premise of Respect Minnesota. Below is an email template of a note that you can send to your network.

EMAIL TEMPLATE INTRODUCTION TO RESPECT MINNESOTA

Hi [Recipient's Name],

I hope this message finds you well.

Recently, I've been involved in something called Respect Minnesota. Respect Minnesota is a pledge to honor and respect people and their opinions. The pledge intends to provide a safe environment for everyone during the planning, permitting and construction of infrastructure projects, such as the Line 3 Replacement Project.

Respect Minnesota aims to establish common ground and encourages respecting the rights to freedom of speech and personal safety.

I'm reaching out to you because I have signed the pledge and I thought you might be interested in learning more about Respect Minnesota. You can learn more and sign the pledge online at www.respectminnesota.org.

Please let me know if you're interested in meeting with me and I can follow up with the next steps.

Best Regards,
[Your Name]

EXPECTATIONS FROM YOUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND PLEDGE SIGNERS

These questions need to be answered for the local government to outline their expectations.

What do you want to get out of Respect Minnesota?

How will you hold individuals accountable?

How will you hold yourself accountable?

What do you think the goal of Respect MN is?

Expectations should be customized by your community's leadership, although, these are a few potential expectations.

- Regularly discuss the Respect Minnesota pledge in meetings and incorporate the Respect Minnesota pledge in daily routine.
- Uphold pledge and reward exemplary behavior. If someone violates the pledge, meet with them to discuss their behavior. Likewise acknowledge and reward instances during which member behavior upholds the spirit of the pledge.
- Encourage members to talk about the Respect Minnesota pledge and what it means to them in their daily lives, both at work and at home.