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June 18, 2026

Minneapolis City Council
350 South 5th Street
Room 370
Minneapolis, MN 55415

SUBJECT: Nominating Enrique Velázquez to the appointed position of Director of Regulatory Services

Dear Council President Payne, Council Vice President Osman, and Council Members,

With this letter, I am nominating Enrique Velázquez to the appointed position of Director of Regulatory Services.

Under Mr. Velázquez's leadership, Regulatory Services has delivered high-quality public services with exemplary customer services, innovation, and collaboration. Mr. Velázquez has led transformative work across multiple service areas, most notably through the expansion of the City's Homeless Response Team, which has connected hundreds of residents to shelter, services, and long-term resources while helping reduce unsheltered homelessness in our community. His leadership in this space has earned national recognition, with Mr. Velázquez regularly invited to share Minneapolis' strategies and successes with peers across the country.

Additionally, Mr. Velázquez has spearheaded the years-long effort to establish a unified rental licensing standard by integrating Minneapolis Public Housing Authority properties into the City's rental licensing and inspections program. He is committed to ensuring that all residents, regardless of age, race, gender, socioeconomic status, or ability, have access to safe and livable housing.

Beyond housing, Mr. Velázquez has championed a best-in-class Animal Care and Control division that has expanded low- to no-cost services that help care for animals and place hundreds with their forever families. Mr. Velázquez has also positioned Traffic Control at the forefront of public safety innovation through pilot initiatives such as traffic camera enforcement and alternative responses to non-injury vehicle accidents.

Internally, Mr. Velázquez has fostered a strong "One Regulatory Services" culture centered on collaboration, accountability, and enterprise-wide problem solving among colleagues. Through partnerships like the Multi-jurisdictional Steering Committee – bringing together MUID, Hennepin County, and multiple City and State agencies – he has strengthened cross-jurisdictional coordination and built lasting trust across government partners and within the community.

Time and again Mr. Velázquez has proven himself to be a thoughtful, solutions-orientated leader. He doesn't shy away from complex challenges, and he's earned the respect of colleagues, community members, and partners alike through his ability to listen, learn, collaborate, and get things done.

For these reasons, I request that the City Council forward his name for appointment to the position of Director of Regulatory Services and refer it to the proper Council Committee for a public hearing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Mayor Jacob Frey

CC: Casey Carl, City Clerk