



Throughout its history, Saint Paul has been the home of innovation that has had a significant impact on the region, the country and the world. From the railroads and the birth of supercomputers to the ongoing reach of some of the most innovative international companies and small startups, Saint Paul has been an innovation hub. But staying innovative requires a focused effort. To best realize the opportunities in the Twin Cities region, targeted strategies must be pursued.

The Saint Paul Innovation Cabinet, formed by Mayor Chris Coleman and Councilmember Chris Tolbert, was charged with developing a vision for expanding job and business growth around the technology and innovation sectors in Saint Paul. **Full Stack Saint Paul** is a framework to build on the local business community's existing momentum and implement targeted strategies aimed at building an environment where more innovative businesses can locate and grow.

Full Stack Saint Paul will build upon Minnesota's reputation for innovation by supporting the culture and ecosystem of bold risk-taking, stunning breakthroughs, and fearless determination that brought 18 Fortune 500 companies to the world. We are the land of thinkers, tinkerers, makers, and doers where the first Empire Builder emerged, we seek the next ones. Full Stack Saint Paul will turn up the volume on the City's quiet innovation sector.

Innovation companies are critical because their jobs do not just benefit individual employees, they benefit all of Saint Paul. Every innovation job is associated with the creation of three to four spin-off jobs in other sectors. No other industry has such a large benefit to the community.

Full Stack Saint Paul outlines three key strategies that will help the City of Saint Paul achieve its goal of expanding innovation jobs and businesses:

- **Telling the story:** Make people aware of the vibrant innovation culture in Saint Paul, its legacy and potential, and its role in the greater metro region.
- **Developing people:** Build and support the places and events where innovators connect and support key pipelines for growing innovation talent in Saint Paul, especially among under-represented populations.
- **Developing innovative places:** Create an ecosystem of high-quality real estate solutions that provide work environments and amenities that help Saint Paul innovation companies recruit and retain talent.

A common thread throughout each of these strategies, and an essential element to the success of this work, will be working across public and private sectors in a true collaboration to accelerate growth in this sector.

To develop these strategies and associated tactics outlined in the Full Stack Saint Paul Action Plan, we drew on our collective expertise in the technology, innovation, economic development, real estate, and workforce development sectors, as well as best practices from other peer cities with thriving innovation industries.

The City of Saint Paul and the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce will lead a broad public/private partnership to implement this action plan.

We strongly support **Full Stack Saint Paul**, and call on business leaders, innovators and all who care about the vitality of our city and region to join us by providing ideas, support and energy. Learn more at stpaul.gov/FullStack or contact Marcq Sung at Marcq.Sung@stpaul.gov or 651-266-6615.

Sincerely,

Saint Paul Innovation Cabinet