



City of
Burnsville

100 Civic Center Parkway, Burnsville, MN 55337

Phone: 952-895-4400

Fax: 952-895-4404

www.burnsville.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 12, 2013

Contact:

Marty Doll

Communications Coordinator

952-895-4402

**BURNSVILLE HEART OF CITY, NICOLLET COMMONS PARK NAMED
ONE OF SIX 'GREAT PLACES' AWARD WINNERS**

Awards Presented by the Minnesota Sensible Land Use Coalition

Burnsville's "Heart of the City" and Nicollet Commons Park (located along Nicollet Avenue south of Highway 13) were named as one of the Twin Cities' "Best Places" by the Minnesota Sensible Land Use Coalition (SLUC) on Dec. 4.

The Heart of the City was one of six developments in the metropolitan area recognized at the inaugural ceremony. The development, which began to take its current shape in 2000, includes residential, retail and public spaces as well as a 1,014-seat performing arts center.

Nicollet Commons Park, located within the development, is one of the first "town square" style parks to be developed in the metro area suburbs. The park features a 250-seat amphitheater for concerts and events, open green space and a water feature.

The entire development was touted by the SLUC as "as a true community gathering space transformed from a suburban strip center."

Burnsville was the only suburban City out of 32 nominations to receive an award. Other award winners included:

- Bruce Vento Nature Center (St. Paul)
- The Loppet (Minneapolis Chain of Lakes)
- Midtown Global Market (Minneapolis)
- Piazza on the Mall (downtown Minneapolis)
- Rice Park (downtown St. Paul)

"We are very proud of the Heart of the City development and the progress it has made in the last 10 to 15 years," said Burnsville Mayor Elizabeth Kautz. "It is an honor to be recognized by professionals in all disciplines of the development industry with an award like this."

(more)

SLUC is a non-profit educational organization consisting of members from public and private sectors involved in development. For more than 30 years, they have been a local leader in the peer-to-peer, cross-disciplinary exchange of information and ideas among Twin Cities land use professionals.

For more information on the awards visit www.sensibleland.org.

High-Resolution image available upon request



(From left to right:) Tina Goodroad, former City of Burnsville Heart of the City Planner; Jenni Faulkner, Burnsville Community Development Director; Burnsville Mayor Elizabeth Kautz; John Shardlow, Principal Consultant on HOC project; Geoff Martin, Nicollet Commons Park Designer; and Phil Carlson, Project Planner.

###