

**CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS  
COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

July 13, 2011

No. 11-10

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A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE IMPOSITION OF A ½ CENT SALES TAX IN RAMSEY  
COUNTY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A VIKINGS STADIUM IN ARDEN HILLS

WHEREAS, the Falcon Heights City Council recognizes the social and economic value of the Minnesota Vikings Football team to the State of Minnesota; and,

WHEREAS, to preserve the Minnesota Vikings as a valuable State amenity, the Falcon Heights City Council understands the desire to find a solution to the Vikings' stated interest in developing a new stadium; and,

WHEREAS, a proposal has been put forth by the Minnesota Vikings and the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners to construct a new stadium in Arden Hills on the site of the former Twin Cities Army Ammunitions Plant (TCAAP); and,

WHEREAS, to finance the construction of this facility, the Ramsey County Board has proposed the imposition of a ½ cent sales tax collected in Ramsey County in an amount sufficient to generate \$350 million; and,

WHEREAS, the Falcon Heights City Council believes this sales tax is being proposed at a difficult time for cities such as Falcon Heights that are facing significant budget pressures due to loss of state aids and general economic conditions; and,

WHEREAS, it is unfair and inequitable for the residents and businesses of Falcon Heights to be asked to bear a disproportionate financial burden for the construction of a State and regional amenity, particularly when the benefit to Falcon Heights taxpayers is tangential at best;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Falcon Heights City Council opposes the imposition of a ½ cent sales tax in Ramsey County to support the construction of a Vikings stadium in Arden Hills; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Falcon Heights City Council encourages the Governor, the Legislature, the Ramsey County Board, the Minnesota Vikings and other interested parties to consider options for constructing a stadium that minimize risk to the taxpayers, limit the level of public subsidy (particularly for the host community), and promote a fair, multi-jurisdictional participation for a State-wide amenity.

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Moved by: *Harris*

Approved by: *Peter Lindstrom*  
Peter Lindstrom, Mayor  
July 13, 2011

LINDSTROM	<u>4</u>	In Favor
GOSLINE		
HARRIS	<u>1</u>	Against
LONG <i>Against</i>		
MERCER-TAYLOR		

Attested by: *JME*  
Justin Miller  
City Administrator  
July 13, 2011