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## *To Whom Does it Concern?*

A well-kept environment should be one of the essentials in life. Just as shelter, clothing and food sustain a living person, a meaningful place can stimulate joy, health, pride and peace. Minneapolis' urban fabric is far from perfect; one can walk down the street and see many problems. These range from potholes and intrusive freeways to clutter and dilapidation. If one has an imagination, it is not hard to see promise in the many challenges we face. For example, why couldn't the underused river attract swimming and skating? The project *To Whom Does it Concern?* is a letter writing campaign that seeks to address these and a host of other urban design issues facing Minneapolis by posing thoughtful questions. The letters, addressed to city leaders and others who shape the environment, are meant to open minds to possibilities that have not yet been considered. The subjects of the letters also carefully consider the potential for aspects of the urban fabric to unite people across traditional demographic and political boundaries, thereby creating stronger communities and neighborhoods. The project aims to inspire citizens to see themselves and their surroundings more critically and proactively, with a keen understanding that changing the environment can positively change the future.



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