

2008



Annual Financial Report

Year Ended December 31, 2008



MINNESOTA BALLPARK AUTHORITY
Hennepin County, Minnesota

MINNESOTA BALLPARK AUTHORITY

Annual Financial Report

December 31, 2008

Minnesota Ballpark Authority Board of Commissioners

Steve Cramer, Chair

Michael Vekich, Vice Chair

Joan Campbell, Secretary

John Wade, Treasurer

Barb Sykora

Minnesota Ballpark Authority Executive Director

Daniel R. Kenney



Prepared by the Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Worldwide Web Address: <http://www.ballparkauthority.com>

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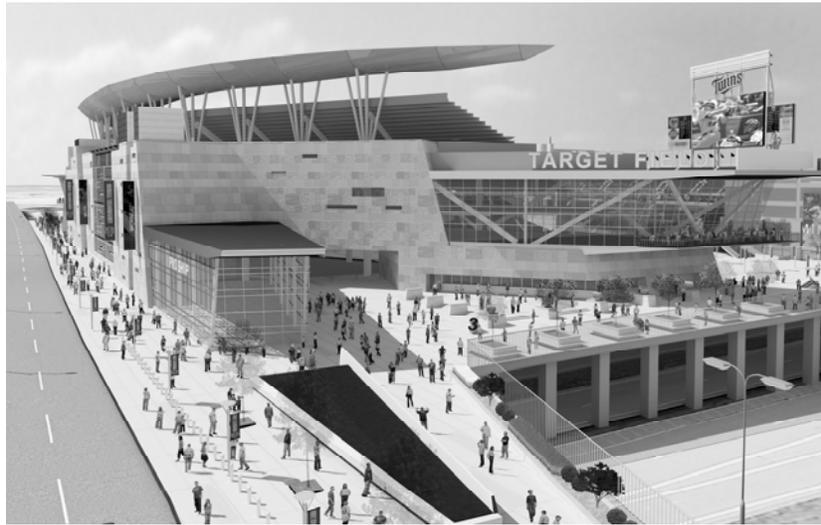
Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
2008 Annual Financial Report
Table of Contents

<u>INTRODUCTORY SECTION</u>	<u>Page</u>
Letter of Transmittal	1
Organization Chart	7
Principal Officials	8
<u>FINANCIAL SECTION</u>	
Independent Auditor's Report	9
Management's Discussion and Analysis	11
Basic Financial Statements	
Governmental Funds Balance Sheet and Statement of Net Assets.....	17
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Assets	18
Statement of Governmental Funds Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances and Statement of Activities	19
Reconciliation of Statement of Governmental Funds Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances and Statement of Activities	20
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements	21
Required Supplementary Information	
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - General Fund	32
Notes to Required Supplementary Information	33



MINNESOTA BALLPARK AUTHORITY
Hennepin County, Minnesota

Introductory Section



MINNESOTA BALLPARK AUTHORITY
Hennepin County, Minnesota



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301 Fourth Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55415
612-543-PARK
Fax: 612-348-7537
www.ballparkauthority.com

November 25, 2009

The Honorable Members of the Minnesota Ballpark Authority Board:

The Annual Financial Report for the Minnesota Ballpark Authority (MBA) is hereby submitted for the calendar year ended December 31, 2008. The report was prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as established by the Government Accounting Standards Board.

Management assumes full responsibility for the completeness and reliability of the information contained in this report, based upon a comprehensive framework of internal control established for this purpose. Because the cost of internal control should not exceed anticipated benefits, the objective is to provide reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of any material misstatements.

The State of Minnesota Office of the State Auditor has issued an unqualified ("clean") opinion on MBA financial statements for the calendar year ended December 31, 2008. The State Auditor's report is located at the front of the financial section of this report.

Management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) immediately follows the State Auditor's report and provides a narrative introduction, overview, and analysis of the basic financial statements. MD&A complements this letter of transmittal and should be read in conjunction with the letter.

Profile of Governance

The MBA was established July 7, 2006, as a public body and political subdivision of the State of Minnesota. It was established for the purpose of construction, operation, and maintenance of a ballpark for a Major League Baseball team in accordance with the powers and authorities granted in Laws of Minnesota Chapter 473. The MBA advises and participates with the Minnesota Twins, LLC (the Twins) in the construction of a baseball stadium to be built in Hennepin County, Minnesota and scheduled to be open in 2010. After construction of the stadium is complete, the MBA will lease the stadium to the Twins, oversee its operations, and participate with the Twins in identifying and funding necessary capital repairs to the structure.

The five-member MBA Board includes two members appointed by the governor of the State of Minnesota, two members appointed by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners, and one member appointed by the governing body of the City of Minneapolis. The board is responsible, among other things, for adopting the annual budget. Budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with GAAP. Beginning in approximately June of each year a budget is prepared and includes information on the past year, current year estimates, and requested appropriations. The Board must adopt and submit a proposed operating budget to the Hennepin County Board by August of each

calendar year. Any changes in the budget must be within the revenues and reserves estimated or the revenue estimates must be changed by a vote of the Board. A budget to actual comparison for the general fund is presented in the Required Supplementary Information section of this report.

Ballpark History

The Minnesota Legislature approved a ballpark bill in 2006 to fund a new Minnesota Twins stadium. The legislative action was the culmination of a 10-year effort to build an outdoor ballpark in Minnesota. The Legislature approved the bill on May 21, 2006, and Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty signed the bill into law five days later before a Twins home game against the Seattle Mariners at the Metrodome. The first meeting of the MBA board was held on July 7, 2006.



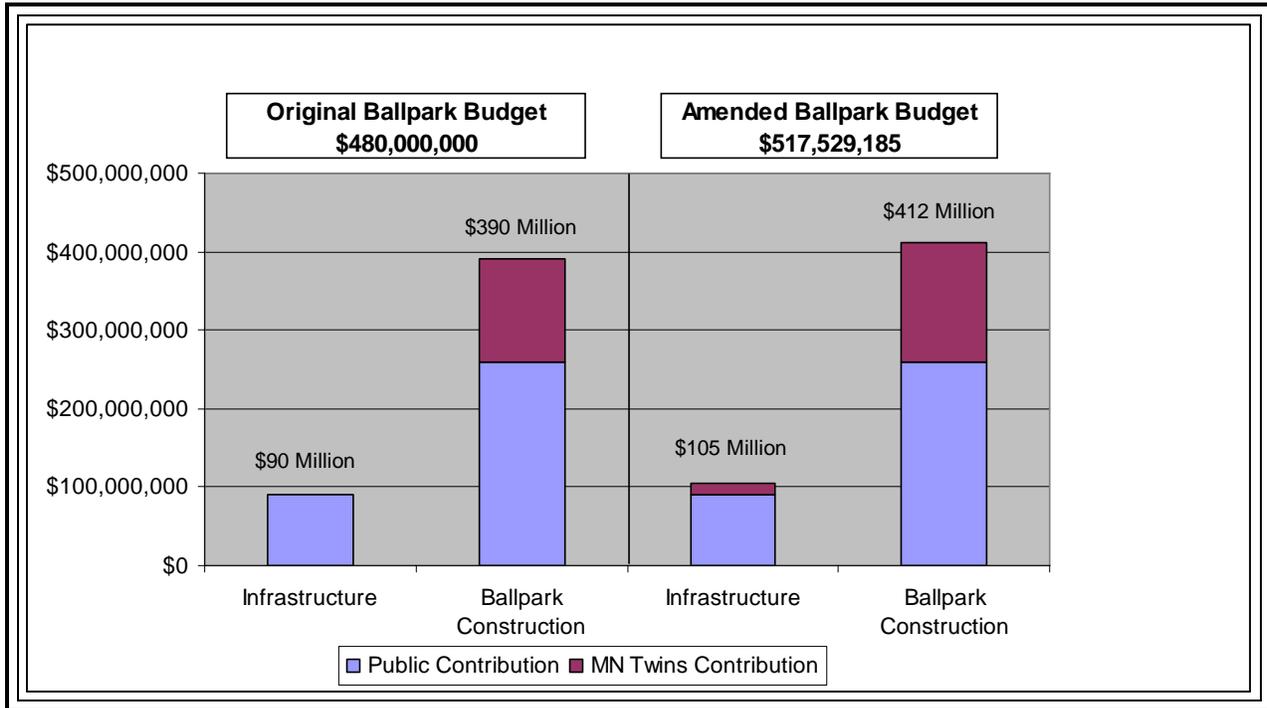
Artist rendering of Vertical Circulation Building at the Twins Stadium in Minneapolis, MN - Image Courtesy of: Populous

Under the 2006 legislation, the public contribution is \$350,000,000: \$90,000,000 for infrastructure and \$260,000,000 for ballpark construction. The public contribution of \$350,000,000 is to be financed by Hennepin County issued bonds. The bonds will be repaid from a County Ballpark .15 percent sales tax also approved in the legislation. Under the original agreement, the Minnesota Twins contribution is \$130,000,000 for ballpark construction costs plus any ballpark cost overruns. After the legislation was adopted, the Twins committed to contributing an additional \$15,000,000 for non-land infrastructure expenses and \$22,529,185 for construction costs. A total budget of \$517,529,185 was approved in February 2008. Of this amount, land, land improvements and the stadium itself will be owned by the public through the Minnesota Ballpark Authority. The remaining amount of the construction costs will consist of discrete assets such as seating and scoreboards that will be owned by the Twins.

Ballpark Construction

Minnesota's new 40,000-seat ballpark is scheduled to open in spring of 2010 marking the Minnesota Twins' 50th season of playing baseball in the Upper Midwest. Ground was broken in 2007 with construction estimated to take 36 months. M.A. Mortenson Company is the construction manager for the project. The architects are Populous (formerly HOK Sport) and Hammel, Green & Abrahamson.

An amended project budget, approved April 2008, totals \$517,529,185, an increase of \$37,529,185 from the original budget of \$480,000,000. Although the public contribution for infrastructure (including site acquisition, construction and soft costs) is limited to \$90,000,000 the Twins contributed an additional \$15,000,000 to the project for infrastructure enhancements. The Twins have also contributed an additional \$22,529,185 to be used for ballpark construction costs. Soft costs include such items as architect fees and insurance.



Community Participation Program

The MBA, Mortenson Construction, the Twins, and Hennepin County have committed to specific goals for hiring subcontractors and suppliers and for employing women, minorities, and small businesses. The ballpark's goal is that 30 percent of project work will be undertaken by Small, Women, and Minority Business Enterprises (SWMBE). An additional goal is that 25 percent of the total hours worked on the project will be by minorities, and another 5 percent by women. As of April 2009 the project was exceeding the 30 percent SWMBE goal at 32 percent, Mortenson had procured approximately \$307 million dollars of work with \$98 million committed to SWMBE firms, and workforce minority participation reached the goal of 25 percent and 6 percent female.

Another component of the goal is the Community Workforce Program, which offers “hands on” training in the construction trades. The objective of the training program is to have 40 – 50 participants employed on the project through the Community Workforce Program through the completion of the ballpark. As of April 2009, the ballpark project had hired 57 people through the Community Workforce Program.

To assist in achieving these goals, the MBA has contracted with the Metropolitan Economic Development Agency (MEDA) to promote outreach to minority-owned firms seeking to bid on ballpark work, and has also partnered with Summit Academy to train workers who can be hired by contractors working on the project.

Twins Contributions, Financing, and Collateral

The Twins deposited the initial \$45 million of their required ballpark funding contribution with the Ballpark Construction Funds Trustee and posted collateral for the remaining \$85 million contribution. After the legislation was adopted in 2006, the Twins also committed to contributing an additional \$15 million for non-land infrastructure expenses. The Development Agreement required these commitments to be collateralized prior to final payment.

Article 5 of the Ballpark Lease outlines the permitted mechanism for Twins Ballpark, LLC to mortgage its leasehold interests in the Ballpark.

To facilitate the Twin's financing, it was requested in January 2008, that the MBA authorize the execution of a Recognition Agreement and consent to collateral assignments of the Twins' right, title and interest in and to the Construction Funds Trust Agreement, Disbursing Agreement, Construction Management Agreement, and Architectural Services Agreement and Plans, in a manner consistent with the provisions of Article 5 of the Ballpark Lease. As a condition of entering into the Recognition Agreement and consenting to these assignments, the MBA requested and the Twins agreed to provide an additional \$25 million in collateral for the MBA's use, to cover unanticipated contingencies that could potentially impact the project's schedule, in the highly unlikely event of a Twins default with its lender.

MBA Contributions

The ballpark authorizing legislation provides that “if the authority obtains grants sufficient to cover the increased costs, the authority must ensure that the ballpark receives Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.” When no grant funding could be secured, the Twins and MBA partnered to do the additional work needed to obtain enough points to seek LEED certification. The grant agreement between Hennepin County and the MBA authorizes the MBA to use interest earnings on proceeds of the bonds for any lawful purpose. Thus, the MBA Board authorized the use of \$1 million from the MBA's interest earnings to assist in efforts to achieve LEED certification.

In April 2008 the MBA Board authorized the creation of a Ballpark District Enhancements and Public Art Incentive fund and allocated \$1 million from the Authority's interest earnings on construction bond proceeds to fund these improvements.

Ballpark Future

The completed open air ballpark will have six separate levels totaling approximately one million square feet, and a natural grass playing field. Fans will be able to enjoy wide, open concourses providing a 360-degree view of the playing field. By locating the stadium within the historic

warehouse district of Minneapolis, attendees will have ready access to transportation and other recreation and eating facilities.

While the ballpark will be owned by the Minnesota Ballpark Authority, it will be leased and operated by the Twins under a thirty-year lease. The Twins will be responsible for 100 percent of the annual ballpark operating expenses. In addition, the Twins will make annual payments, initially \$900,000 (with two-thirds of that amount indexed for inflation), for capital improvements, and \$250,000 per year for youth activities and amateur sports. Hennepin County will contribute \$1,100,000 annually (indexed for inflation) for future capital needs.

Economic and Financial Condition

The information presented in the financial statements is perhaps best understood when it is considered from the broader perspective of the specific environment within which the MBA operates.

Local economy. Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, the geographic area in which the MBA is established, enjoys a favorable economic environment relative to the national economy. The region has a varied manufacturing and industrial base that adds to the stability of the area and is a contributing factor to an unemployment rate that is below national averages. It is anticipated that the construction of the ballpark will contribute to the economy by the creation of 500 jobs over the three-year construction period.

Major industries with headquarters or divisions located within the government's boundaries or in close proximity include retail sales, manufacturing, professional services, several banking, financial and insurance institutions, and four major professional sports teams.

Long-term financial planning. The MBA has planned for financial stability on a long-term basis through the execution of several agreements with other parties, including the Twins and Hennepin County. The MBA has entered into a grant agreement with Hennepin County which provides for County grants for both operating expenses and ballpark construction and public infrastructure costs.

In addition, the MBA has entered into a thirty-year lease with the Twins, with two ten-year renewal options.

Cash management policies and practices. Cash in the general fund is deposited in accounts of the Hennepin County Investment Pool, an external investment pool. The County manages its cash and investments internally in order to be able to closely match invested balances to operating cash flow needs for maximum advantage and safety. With the exception of a small percentage of escrowed funds (held in trust in U.S. Treasuries or money market funds), the County's cash is invested in AAA-rated obligations of U.S. government-sponsored enterprises and repurchase agreements with primary dealers. The County manages its exposure to fair value losses arising from market conditions by limiting its effective duration to six years or less, and by ensuring that it could hold investments to maturity if necessary. On December 31, 2008, the County's investment portfolio had an effective duration of 1.02 years and a 12-month cash yield of 3.99 percent. Unrealized portfolio gains occurring in 2008 totaled \$4.4 million.

The MBA's cash in the capital project fund is deposited in a trust account at Wells Fargo Bank and subject to the requirements of the Ballpark Disbursing Agreement and the Agreement and Declaration of Trust for Ballpark Construction Funds Trust (Construction Trust). Under the Construction Trust, all investments are to be made in money market mutual funds that are permitted under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 118A.

Risk management. The MBA has a comprehensive risk management program, which includes risk retention, transfer, and control techniques. Purchased insurance primarily covers certain property loss exposures. Additional information is available in note 9 to the basic financial statements.

The preparation of this report could not have been accomplished without the efficient and dedicated services of the entire staff of the MBA. We would like to express our appreciation to all staff who assisted and contributed to the preparation of this report. Credit also must be given to the MBA Board for their support for maintaining the highest standards of professionalism in the management of MBA finances.

Respectfully submitted,



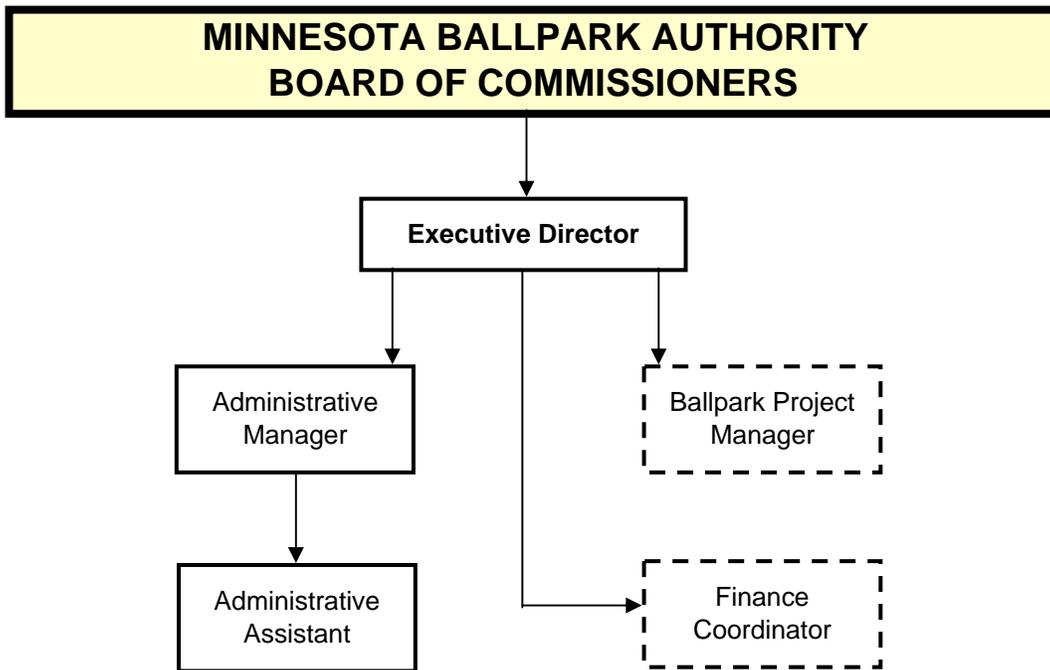
Daniel R. Kenney
Executive Director



Brenda Juneau
Finance Coordinator

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota

Organization Chart



- Represents Minnesota Ballpark Authority Employee
- - - Represents Minnesota Ballpark Authority Contract Worker

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Principal Officials 2008

Board of Commissioners:

Steve Cramer, Chair
Michael Vekich, Vice Chair
Joan Campbell, Secretary
John Wade, Treasurer
Barb Sykora

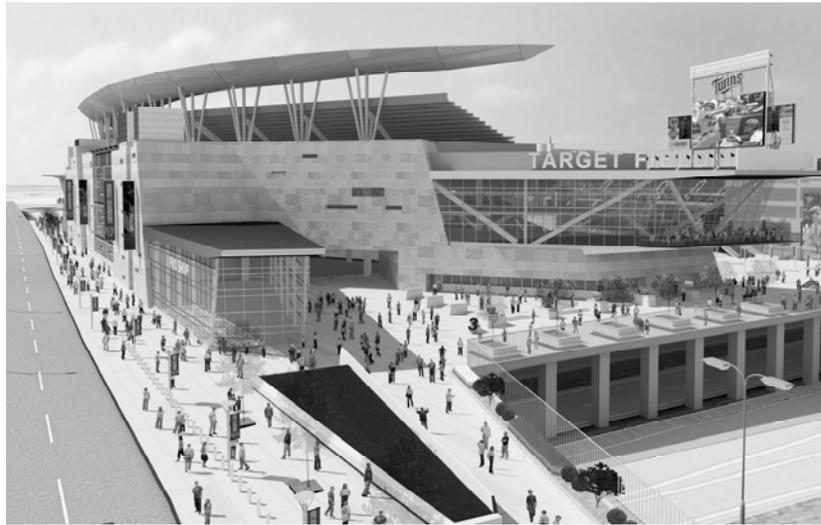


*From L. to R.: J. Wade, B. Sykora, S. Cramer,
J. Campbell, and M. Vekich*

Executive Director:

Daniel R. Kenney

Financial Section



MINNESOTA BALLPARK AUTHORITY
Hennepin County, Minnesota



REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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(651) 296-2551 (Voice)
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Commissioners
Minnesota Ballpark Authority

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Minnesota Ballpark Authority as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Minnesota Ballpark Authority's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Minnesota Ballpark Authority as of December 31, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis and the required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated November 25, 2009, on our consideration of the Minnesota Ballpark Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.



REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR



GREG HIERLINGER, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

November 25, 2009

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Management's Discussion and Analysis

This discussion and analysis is intended to provide financial statement readers with a financial overview and narrative analysis of the financial position and activities of the Minnesota Ballpark Authority (MBA), a local government unit in Hennepin County for the year ended December 31, 2008. This information should be considered in conjunction with the information contained in the financial statements, which follow this section, and the transmittal letter, found on page 1.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Government-Wide

- At December 31, 2008, the assets of the MBA exceeded its liabilities by \$401,949,290. Of the total net assets, \$289,338,916 was invested in capital assets and \$105,742,076 was restricted. The remainder consisted of unrestricted net assets of \$6,868,298. Restricted assets are limited to costs relating to the construction of the new Minnesota Twins Ballpark. Unrestricted assets include unrestricted investment earnings on restricted assets.
- The MBA total net assets, as reported in the Statement of Activities, increased by \$197,521,180 during 2008. This increase was due almost entirely to a grant contribution from Hennepin County of \$196,524,389 which is restricted for use on the construction of the new Minnesota Twins Ballpark and MBA operating costs.

Fund Level

- At the end of the fiscal year 2008, the MBA's governmental funds reported total ending fund balances of \$112,564,665, an increase of \$19,691,108 from the prior year balance of \$92,873,557. The increase in fund balance results from the contributions from Hennepin County to the Capital Projects Fund. Also contributing to the increase is the grant contribution from Hennepin County to the General Fund to cover the MBA's operating expenses.
- Unreserved deficit fund balance for the General Fund was \$176,401. Fluctuations in the fund balance of the General Fund will occur due to the fact that grant contributions from the County received in December of each year are based on estimates of December activity. If the estimates vary from actual December MBA expenditures, the excess or shortage will be included in the next scheduled contribution which is provided in June of the following year.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management's discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the MBA basic financial statements, which are comprised of two components: 1) combined government-wide and fund financial statements, and 2) notes to the basic financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide Financial Statements

The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of MBA finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business. The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net assets and the statement of activities) report information about the MBA as a whole using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*. The economic resources measurement focus results in the reporting of all inflows, outflows, and balances affecting or reflecting MBA net assets. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. There are two government-wide statements.

- *The Statement of Net Assets* presents information on all MBA assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net assets*. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as an indicator of whether the financial position of the MBA is improving or deteriorating.
- *The Statement of Activities* presents information showing how the MBA net assets changed during the year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

In both statements, MBA activities are reported as *governmental activities*, which are defined as functions that are principally supported by taxes, intergovernmental and non-exchange revenues.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the MBA's major funds. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. MBA activity is reported in two major governmental funds, the General Fund and the Capital Projects Fund. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on *near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources*. This approach is known as using the flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. The fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of MBA finances that assists in determining whether there will be adequate financial resources available to meet current needs.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the MBA's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental funds balance sheet and the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds and governmental activities*. The reconciliations are presented in the adjustments column in each of the basic financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the basic financial statements.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as an indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the MBA, assets exceeded liabilities by \$401,949,290 at December 31, 2008. The Statement of Net Assets presents all of the MBA's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as "net assets".

Summary of Net Assets

	2008	2007
Current assets	\$ 138,474,010	\$ 105,020,453
Net capital assets	<u>289,338,916</u>	<u>111,497,558</u>
Total assets	<u>427,812,926</u>	<u>216,518,011</u>
Total liabilities	<u>25,863,636</u>	<u>12,089,901</u>
Total net assets	<u>\$ 401,949,290</u>	<u>\$ 204,428,110</u>
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	\$ 289,338,916	\$ 111,497,558
Restricted	105,742,076	89,338,279
Unrestricted	<u>6,868,298</u>	<u>3,592,273</u>
Total net assets	<u>\$ 401,949,290</u>	<u>\$ 204,428,110</u>

The largest portion of MBA net assets, \$289,338,916, reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, land improvements, and ballpark structure), less any related long-term debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. (No such related debt exists.) Upon completion of the new ballpark, the MBA will use these capital assets to provide recreational services to citizens; consequently, these assets are *not* available for future spending. An additional portion of the MBA's net assets, \$105,742,076, represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. These restrictions are contained in the legislation establishing the MBA and also in various agreements with external parties partnering with the MBA on the construction of the new ballpark. The remainder consists of unrestricted net assets of \$6,868,298.

The MBA net assets increased by \$197,521,180 during 2008, due almost entirely to a grant contribution from Hennepin County of \$196,524,389, which is restricted for use on the construction of the new Minnesota Twins Ballpark and for MBA operating costs.

Changes in Net Assets

Governmental Activities:	2008	2007
Revenues:		
Program revenues:		
Capital contribution from Hennepin County	\$ 194,281,021	\$ 155,718,979
Contribution from Minnesota Twins, LLC	-	45,000,000
Other contributions	-	3,000
General revenues:		
Operating contribution from Hennepin County	2,243,368	2,146,131
Investment earnings	3,339,300	3,659,692
Total revenues	199,863,689	206,527,802
Expenses:		
Culture and recreation:		
MBA operating expenses	2,342,509	1,866,332
Total expenses	2,342,509	1,866,332
Change in net assets	197,521,180	204,661,470
Net assets – beginning	204,428,110	(233,360)
Net assets – ending	\$ 401,949,290	\$ 204,428,110

FUND FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Changes in Fund Balance

The focus of the *governmental funds* is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of *spendable* resources. Such information is useful in assessing MBA financing requirements. In particular, *unreserved fund balance* may serve as a useful measure of net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the 2008 fiscal year, MBA governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$112,564,665, an increase of \$19,691,108 from the prior year. The increase in fund balance primarily relates to the contributions received from Hennepin County to fund the construction of the new Twins ballpark.

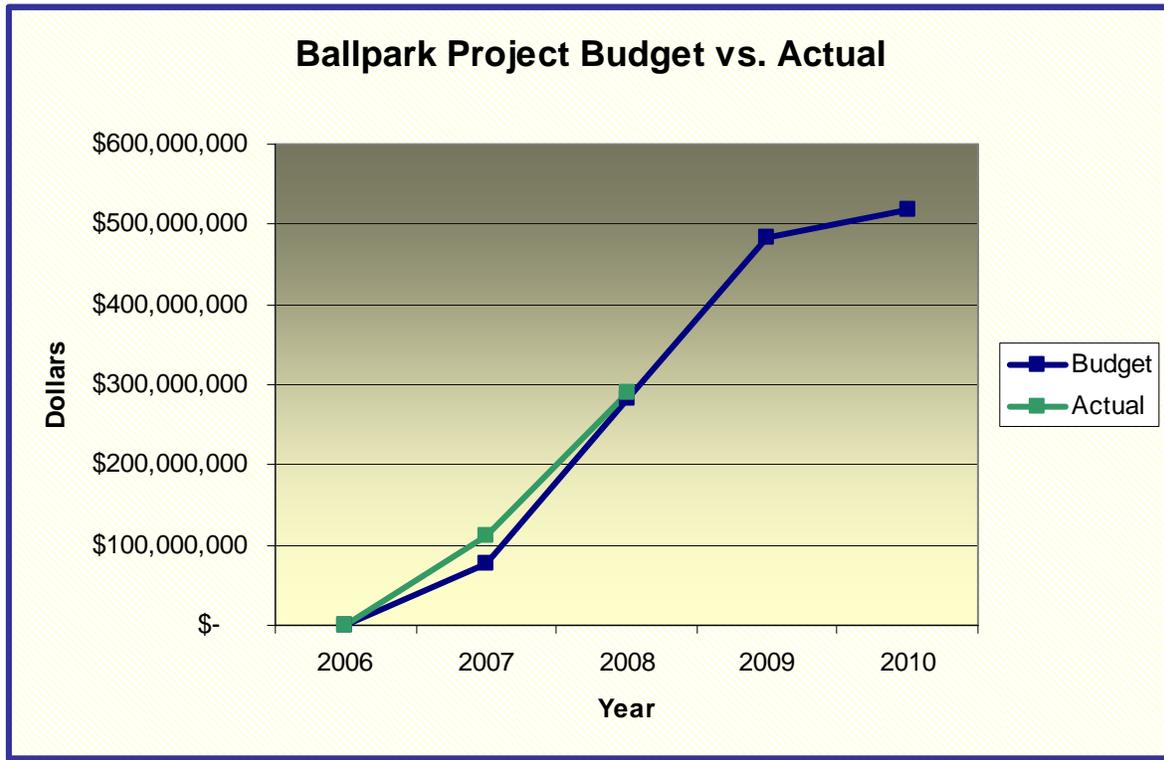
Budgetary Highlights

At year-end, actual General Fund expenditures of \$2,295,355 were less than the final \$2,656,755 budget. General Fund revenues were \$413,387 less than budgeted amounts.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital Assets

MBA investment in capital assets as of December 31, 2008, amounts to \$289,338,916 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, land improvements, ballpark structure, leasehold improvements and furniture and equipment. During the fiscal year 2008, the MBA's investment in capital assets increased \$177,841,358 over the prior year's balance.



The MBA is engaged in the building of the Minnesota Twins Ballpark, due to be completed in 2010. The estimated budget is shown above as compared to costs incurred through December 31, 2008.

Additional information on MBA capital assets can be found in note 4 on page 27 of this report.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

The 2009 General Fund budget was decreased \$83,095 to \$2,573,660 from the 2008 budget, primarily due to a decreased need for services from the County Ballpark Project office.

The Capital Project budget has been increased to a total of \$545,016,694, which includes a Public Infrastructure budget of \$119,525,000 and a Ballpark budget of \$425,491,694.

The Public Infrastructure budget was increased in 2008 from \$90,000,000 to \$105,000,000 and the Ballpark budget from \$390,000,000 to \$412,529,185. Since the adoption of the 2008 amendment an additional \$5,525,000 has been added to the Public Infrastructure Budget from public funding sources: The Minnesota Department of Transportation funded the \$3,375,000 elevated walkway over 7th Street; the MBA authorized spending \$1,000,000 for LEED efforts and \$1,000,000 for District Enhancements; and the Northstar Project funded a \$150,000 art installation in the Vertical Circulation Building.

An additional \$9,000,000 has been approved from private funding sources for the construction and funding of Plaza Enhancements. In May 2009 the MBA acknowledged a contribution of \$4,500,000 from Target Corporation and \$4,500,000 from the Twins for these improvements. As a result of these additional public and private funding commitments, the total Public Infrastructure budget is increased from \$105,000,000 to \$119,525,000.

As of March 31, 2009, the Twins contributed an additional \$12,962,509 which includes \$6,000,000 for Ballpark Furniture Fixtures and Equipment (FF&E) and \$6,962,509 for additional ballpark enhancements. These most recent Twins funding commitments for Ballpark costs, totaling \$12,962,509, will increase the Ballpark Construction budget from \$412,529,185 to \$425,491,694. These new commitments, along with the Twin's commitments to Infrastructure, bring the total Twin's contribution for the Ballpark Project to \$184,991,694.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide an overview for those interested in the MBA's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Minnesota Ballpark Authority, 390 Grain Exchange, 301 Fourth Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55415.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Governmental Funds Balance Sheet and Statement of Net Assets
December 31, 2008

	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Total	Adjustments	Statement of Net Assets
ASSETS					
Current assets:					
Cash invested in Hennepin County investment pool	\$ 5,833	\$ 3,000	\$ 8,833	\$ -	\$ 8,833
Investments in trust: Restricted	-	131,394,800	131,394,800	-	131,394,800
Unrestricted	-	6,900,647	6,900,647	-	6,900,647
Accrued investment interest	-	98,343	98,343	-	98,343
Prepaid items	-	-	-	71,387	71,387
Total current assets	<u>5,833</u>	<u>138,396,790</u>	<u>138,402,623</u>	<u>71,387</u>	<u>138,474,010</u>
Noncurrent assets:					
Capital assets:					
Land	-	-	-	40,843,294	40,843,294
Construction in progress - land improvements	-	-	-	77,882,210	77,882,210
Construction in progress - ballpark structure	-	-	-	170,535,422	170,535,422
Leasehold improvements	-	-	-	71,321	71,321
Furniture and equipment	-	-	-	60,471	60,471
Total capital assets	-	-	-	289,392,718	289,392,718
Less accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	(53,802)	(53,802)
Net capital assets	-	-	-	289,338,916	289,338,916
Total assets	<u>\$ 5,833</u>	<u>\$ 138,396,790</u>	<u>\$ 138,402,623</u>	<u>\$ 289,410,303</u>	<u>\$ 427,812,926</u>
LIABILITIES					
Current liabilities:					
Accounts and contracts payable	\$ 163,884	\$ 25,655,724	\$ 25,819,608	\$ -	\$ 25,819,608
Accrued liabilities	8,350	-	8,350	25,678	34,028
Due to Hennepin County	10,000	-	10,000	-	10,000
Total current liabilities	<u>182,234</u>	<u>25,655,724</u>	<u>25,837,958</u>	<u>25,678</u>	<u>25,863,636</u>
FUND BALANCES/NET ASSETS					
Fund balances:					
Designated	-	2,000,000	2,000,000	(2,000,000)	-
Unreserved and undesignated	(176,401)	110,741,066	110,564,665	(110,564,665)	-
Total fund balances	<u>(176,401)</u>	<u>112,741,066</u>	<u>112,564,665</u>	<u>(112,564,665)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u>\$ 5,833</u>	<u>\$ 138,396,790</u>	<u>\$ 138,402,623</u>		
Net assets:					
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt				289,338,916	289,338,916
Restricted				105,742,076	105,742,076
Unrestricted				6,868,298	6,868,298
Total net assets				<u>\$ 401,949,290</u>	<u>\$ 401,949,290</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Assets
December 31, 2008

Total Governmental Fund Balances	\$ 112,564,665
Total net assets reported for governmental activities are different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as assets in the funds.	289,338,916
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.	(25,678)
Other long term assets that provide benefit for future periods are expensed in governmental funds.	<u>71,387</u>
Net Assets - Governmental Activities	\$ <u><u>401,949,290</u></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
**Statement of Governmental Funds Revenues, Expenditures,
and Changes in Fund Balances and Statement of Activities**
For the Year Ended December 31, 2008

	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Total	Adjustments	Statement of Activities
REVENUES					
Program revenues:					
Capital contribution from Hennepin County	\$ -	\$ 194,281,021	\$ 194,281,021	\$ -	\$ 194,281,021
General revenues:					
Operating contribution from Hennepin County	2,243,368	-	2,243,368	-	2,243,368
Investment earnings	-	3,339,300	3,339,300	-	3,339,300
Total general revenues	<u>2,243,368</u>	<u>197,620,321</u>	<u>199,863,689</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,582,668</u>
Total revenues	<u>2,243,368</u>	<u>197,620,321</u>	<u>199,863,689</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,863,689</u>
EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES					
Current					
Culture and recreation					
Personal services	336,933	-	336,933	5,100	342,033
Commodities	8,650	-	8,650	-	8,650
Contractual services	1,799,805	-	1,799,805	-	1,799,805
Depreciation	-	-	-	35,868	35,868
Other	149,967	-	149,967	6,186	156,153
Capital outlay	-	177,877,226	177,877,226	(177,877,226)	-
Total expenditures/expenses	<u>2,295,355</u>	<u>177,877,226</u>	<u>180,172,581</u>	<u>(177,830,072)</u>	<u>2,342,509</u>
Net change in fund balances/net assets	(51,987)	19,743,095	19,691,108	177,830,072	197,521,180
FUND BALANCES/NET ASSETS					
Beginning	<u>(124,414)</u>	<u>92,997,971</u>	<u>92,873,557</u>	<u>111,554,553</u>	<u>204,428,110</u>
Ending	<u>\$ (176,401)</u>	<u>\$ 112,741,066</u>	<u>\$ 112,564,665</u>	<u>\$ 289,384,625</u>	<u>\$ 401,949,290</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
**Reconciliation of Statement of Governmental Funds Revenues, Expenditures,
and Changes in Fund Balances and Statement of Activities**
For the Year Ended December 31, 2008

Net change in governmental fund balances	\$	19,691,108
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:</p>		
<p>Expenses reported in the statement of activities that do not require the use of current financial resources are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. This is the change in compensated absences.</p>		(5,100)
<p>Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.</p>		
Expenditures for general capital assets, infrastructure and other related capital assets		177,877,226
Less current year depreciation		(35,868)
<p>Some expenses reported in the statement of activities did not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds.</p>		
Change in prepaid items		(6,186)
Change in Net Assets - Governmental Activities	\$	197,521,180

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Financial Reporting Entity

The Minnesota Ballpark Authority (MBA) was created by Minnesota state legislation to oversee the design, construction, and operation of a new ballpark for the Minnesota Twins, LLC. The Legislature approved the bill on May 21, 2006, and Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty signed the bill into law five days later. The MBA board consists of five Commissioners who are appointed as follows: two, including the Chair, are appointed by the Hennepin County Board, two are appointed by the Governor of Minnesota, and one is appointed by the Minneapolis City Council. The MBA board first met on July 7, 2006. Upon completion of the construction, the MBA will own the ballpark and the site on behalf of the public.

The MBA is established as a public body and political subdivision of the state. In determining the rights, powers, and duties of the MBA, it is considered a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota. In addition, the MBA is subject to various agreements with other parties that define the parameters within which the ballpark will be constructed and operated.

The financial statements of the MBA are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Basis of Presentation

The annual financial report includes two separate types of statements, the government-wide financial statements and the fund financial statements. The measurement focus basis of accounting and basis of presentation differs between the government-wide financial statements and the fund financial statements. These differences, along with an explanation of the differing purposes and information provided by these separate financial statements, are described in the sections below.

As a special-purpose government engaged in a single governmental program, the government-wide statements and the fund financial statements have been combined in one statement. An adjustments column reflects the following differences between the two types of statements:

- Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and is reported as depreciation expense.
- The adjustments column represents the recording of long-term liabilities and the related effect of these transactions on the Statement of Activities. Long-term liabilities, including accrued leave, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the fund financial statements.
- Also included in the adjustments column are certain payments to vendors which reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and which are recorded as prepaid items in government-wide financial statements.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the government entity using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*. The economic resources measurement focus results in the reporting of all inflows, outflows, and balances affecting or reflecting the MBA's net assets. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity, if any, has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements. The structure of the two government-wide financial statements (the statement of net assets and the statement of activities) is described in the following two paragraphs.

Statement of Net Assets – This statement is designed to display the financial position of the MBA. The MBA reports all capital assets and long-term liabilities, such as accrued leave. The net assets of the MBA are broken down into three categories: 1) invested in capital assets, net of related debt; 2) restricted; and 3) unrestricted. Restrictions shown are those imposed by parties outside the MBA, such as creditors, grantors, contributors, laws and regulations of other governments. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the government's policy to use restricted resources first, and then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Statement of Activities – This statement demonstrates the degree to which expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. During 2008, the MBA received program revenues in the form of contributions to be used for the building of the ballpark. Other items not properly included among program revenues are reported as general revenues. Just as the statement of net assets includes all capital assets, the Statement of Activities includes depreciation expenses.

Fund Financial Statements

The accounts of the MBA are organized on the basis of funds. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions. The minimum number of funds is maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements. All individual funds are considered major and are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

Governmental Funds are used to account for the MBA's activities. Governmental fund types use the financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they are "measurable and available"). "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined, and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The MBA considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days after year-end. In applying the susceptible to accrual concept under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are deemed both measurable and available: investment earnings and intergovernmental revenue when eligibility requirements are met. Changes in the fair value of investments are recognized in interest revenues at the end of each year. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for compensated absences.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

The MBA reports the following major governmental funds:

- The *General Fund* is the MBA's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government except those required to be accounted for in another fund.
- The *Capital Projects Fund* accounts for the activity relating the design and construction of the ballpark.

Cash and Investments

The MBA's cash in the Capital Projects Fund is deposited in a trust account at Wells Fargo Bank and subject to the requirements of the Ballpark Disbursing Agreement and the Agreement and Declaration of Trust for Ballpark Construction Funds Trust (Construction Trust). Under the Construction Trust, all investments are to be made in money market mutual funds that are permitted under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 118A.

The MBA's cash in the General Fund is pooled and invested with Hennepin County. Hennepin County obtains collateral to cover deposits in excess of insurance coverage. Investments are stated at fair value. The fair value of investments is determined annually and is based on current market prices received from broker dealers. State law authorizes Hennepin County to invest in the following instruments:

- United States Treasury obligations
- Federal agency issues
- Repurchase agreements
- Reverse repurchase agreements
- Certificates of deposit
- General obligations of state, local, and housing finance agencies that are rated "A" or better by a national bond rating service
- Revenue obligations of any state or local government that are rated "AA" or better by a national bond rating service
- Bankers acceptances
- Commercial paper
- Futures contracts
- Guaranteed investment contracts
- Options
- Shares of certain investment companies

Receivables and Payables

Certain receivables result from activities relating to the ballpark project cash flows. These are short-term in nature and generally repaid within the same operating cycle.

Accrued liabilities result from employee payroll related obligations due at the end of the period.

Prepaid Items

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in the government-wide financial statements.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

Capital Assets

Capital assets are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Such assets are recorded at cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. MBA's capitalization threshold is \$500,000 for buildings and infrastructure and \$5,000 for equipment and improvements. During construction of the ballpark, all project costs are capitalized as part of the ballpark land and structure. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized. Capital assets of the MBA are depreciated using the straight-line method. Estimated life assigned to land improvements and buildings is 20-50 years. Estimated life assigned to furniture and fixtures is 3 to 10 years.

Employee Compensated Absences

It is the MBA's policy to permit employees to accumulate earned but unused leave time. Under certain conditions, employees are compensated upon termination of employment for their accumulated leave time up to a maximum number of hours.

Accumulated leave time is reported as an expense and an accrued liability as the benefits accrue to employees in the government-wide financial statements. The MBA records this liability under the first in, first out method of accounting. All amounts accrued at December 31 are expected to be used in the following year.

Fund Balance and Net Assets

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a special purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

On the statement of net assets, the portion of net assets that is invested in capital assets net of related debt is reported separately. Restricted net assets are reported for amounts that are legally restricted by outside parties to be used for a specific purpose.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

2. RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND GOVERNMENTAL FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund balance sheet and the government-wide statement of net assets:

The basic financial statements include a reconciliation of the governmental fund balance sheet to the statement of net assets. One element of that reconciliation relates to capital assets, which consists of the following:

	<u>2008</u>	
Governmental fund capital assets	\$ 289,392,718	
Governmental fund accumulated depreciation	<u>(53,802)</u>	
 Total capital assets reconciliation item	 \$ <u>289,338,916</u>	

Other elements relate to the accrual at the government-wide level of certain prepaid expenditures and liabilities due to a difference in measurement focus. These consist of the following:

	<u>2008</u>	
Compensated Absences - Expenses reported in the statement of activities that do not require the use of current financial resources	\$ (25,678)	
 Prepaid items represent governmental fund insurance premiums which benefit future periods.	 <u>71,387</u>	
 Total measurement focus reconciliation item	 \$ <u>45,709</u>	

3. CASH

Deposits

As of December 31, 2008, the MBA had \$8,833 on deposit with Hennepin County. It is Hennepin County's policy to follow Minnesota Statute 118A.03, which states that to the extent that funds deposited are in excess of available federal deposit insurance, the County must require the financial institution to furnish collateral security or a corporate surety bond. All collateral must be placed in safekeeping in a restricted account at a Federal Reserve Bank, or in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution not owned or controlled by the financial institution furnishing the collateral.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the MBA's deposits may not be returned to it. The MBA does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk outside of deposit policies developed by and adhered to by Hennepin County.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

3. CASH -- CONTINUED

Investments

Ballpark project contributions made to the Capital Projects Fund are deposited to a trust account at Wells Fargo Bank, as Trustee of the Trust, (Trustee) and subject to the requirements of the Ballpark Disbursing Agreement and the Agreement and Declaration of Trust for Ballpark Construction Funds Trust (Construction Trust). Under the Construction Trust, all investments are to be made in money market mutual funds that are permitted under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 118A, can be liquidated daily, have a fixed share redemption value, and have a credit rating issued by a nationally recognized ratings analysis service in the highest short-term rating category of such service. If and to the extent any funds are uninvested and held in a demand or time deposit account maintained with the Trustee's banking department, the amount of such funds deposit shall be secured by collateral pledged by the Trustee as required by Minnesota Statutes Section 118A.03.

Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At December 31, 2008, none of the MBA's investments were subject to custodial credit risk.

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss that may be caused by the MBA's investment in a single issuer. At December 31, 2008, the MBA held \$138,295,447 in the Wells Fargo Advantage Government Money Market Fund.

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in the market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. At December 31, 2008, none of the MBA's investments were subject to interest rate risk.

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. At December 31, 2008, none of the MBA's investments were subject to credit risk.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

4. CHANGES IN PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2008, was as follows:

	Balance January 1, 2008	Additions	Deletions	Balance December 31, 2008
<i>Capital assets not depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 40,250,712	\$ 592,582	\$ -	\$ 40,843,294
Construction in progress - land improvements	51,936,695	25,945,515	-	77,882,210
Construction in progress - ballpark structure	19,196,293	151,339,129	-	170,535,422
<i>Total capital assets not depreciated</i>	<u>111,383,700</u>	<u>177,877,226</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>289,260,926</u>
<i>Capital assets depreciated:</i>				
Leasehold improvements	71,321	-	-	71,321
Furniture and equipment	60,471	-	-	60,471
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(17,934)</u>	<u>(35,868)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(53,802)</u>
<i>Total capital assets depreciated, net</i>	<u>113,858</u>	<u>(35,868)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,990</u>
<i>Capital Assets, Net</i>	<u>\$ 111,497,558</u>	<u>\$ 177,841,358</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 289,338,916</u>

5. DUE TO HENNEPIN COUNTY

Hennepin County has loaned cash to the MBA when needed. The amount is repaid when cash flow allows, generally within the same operating cycle. No interest is charged by Hennepin County on these loans. The amount owed to Hennepin County at December 31, 2008, was \$10,000. This amount was repaid in 2009.

6. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

Changes in long-term obligations for the year ended December 31, 2008, are as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Due Within One Year</u>
Governmental Activities					
Compensated Absences	\$20,578	\$25,678	\$20,578	\$25,678	\$25,678

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

7. DESIGNATED FUND BALANCE

Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change. In 2007, the MBA Board passed a resolution designating \$1,000,000 of unrestricted cash in the capital projects fund for assistance with efforts to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for the ballpark project. In 2008, the MBA Board passed a resolution designating another \$1,000,000 of unrestricted cash in the capital projects fund for ballpark district enhancements and a public art incentive fund.

8. RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

The use of restricted net assets is subject to constraints that are externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, laws, or regulations. Restrictions indicate that the net assets may only be used for a specific purpose that is narrower than the purpose of the reporting unit. Restricted net assets are reduced by liabilities related to those assets. Restricted net assets that are reported in the Statement of Net Assets may differ from the reserved fund balance shown in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet. The restriction for ballpark construction is shown at the government-wide level, but not at the fund level due to the different reporting perspective. Government-wide restricted net assets at December 31, 2008, total \$105,742,076.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT

The MBA is exposed to various risks of loss related to general and professional liability torts; and theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets. Commercial property insurance is purchased by the MBA to cover the MBA's buildings, money, and securities, subject to deductible amounts. Settled claims from insured losses for the MBA have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage for the past three years.

In order to manage the project's construction risk, the Minnesota Twins and the MBA have agreed to use an owner controlled insurance program. In this program, the project owner purchases insurance for all subcontractors in the project and requires these subcontractors to reduce their bid price by the amount of their insurance costs. At the end of 2008, claims have not exceeded budgeted project costs.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

10. COMMITMENTS

Construction and Other Commitments

The MBA has entered into a variety of agreements relating to building and managing the new Minnesota Twins Ballpark. The MBA has committed to contributing funds to the project in the amount of \$350,000,000. The \$350,000,000 is granted to the MBA from Hennepin County (the County) under the terms of a grant agreement between the MBA and the County.

Under the development agreement as amended in April, 2008, between the MBA, the County, and the Minnesota Twins, LLC, (the Twins), the total project cost is \$517,529,185, an increase of \$37,529,185 from the original budget. The Twins have entered into a \$391,018,213 construction agreement with M.A. Mortenson Company for the building of the stadium. As of December 31, 2008, more than \$195 million had been spent against this contract.

Upon completion of the new stadium, the MBA will have certain limited obligations under the Ballpark Lease Agreement between the MBA and the Twins. The Twins will manage the stadium and will be responsible for all operating expenses.

Contribution Commitment Arising from Estimates Used in Allocation of Property Ownership

Construction of the Minnesota Twins Ballpark is funded by a public contribution consisting primarily of grants from Hennepin County to the MBA under a grant agreement (as described above) and contributions received from the Twins. Pursuant to the amended development agreement among the MBA, the Twins and the County, the Twins have agreed to contribute toward ballpark costs the \$130 million required by the ballpark statute and, in addition, \$22,529,185 for ballpark enhancements, for a total of \$152,529,185, as well as paying for all cost overruns. The initial \$45 million portion of the Twins Ballpark Contribution was deposited in the Construction Trust (refer to note 3) in May, 2007. The schedule of capital asset activity shown in note 4, as well as the foregoing Statement of Net Assets at December 31, 2008, includes the assets purchased with the initial \$45 million capital contribution of the Twins as a construction-in-progress asset of the MBA.

A provision in the Ballpark Lease Agreement between the MBA and the Twins permits the Twins, following completion of construction, to designate (subject to the MBA's reasonable approval) items representing certain specific improvements, fixtures, furnishings, equipment, and other similar property, in an amount up to the Twins Ballpark Contribution. Pursuant to the Ballpark Lease Agreement, the Twins will be permitted to claim depreciation deductions and other tax benefits which may be available to the Twins as the income tax owner of such property.

As noted, such designation of the Twins' property will not occur until after completion of construction of the ballpark. Pending completion and such designation, amounts constituting the Twins Ballpark Contribution will continue to be reflected, as is the case for the initial \$45 million, on the MBA financial statements as assets of the MBA. At such time as completion of construction and/or designation of the Twins' property occurs, any amounts up to the Twins Ballpark Contribution initially estimated and reflected as MBA assets, but later determined to be assets of the Twins, will be adjusted accordingly.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

11. COMMITMENTS – CONTINUED

Office Space Lease

The MBA has entered into a cancellable lease agreement with the Minneapolis Grain Exchange for office space for the MBA. The lease term runs from January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2010, and is cancellable with 90 days notice any time after the second year of the lease. The MBA made operating lease payments in 2008 of \$88,416. The following is a schedule of future minimum operating lease payments:

2009	\$ 39,288	
2010	\$ 11,049	<i>based on lease ending 3/31/2010</i>

The MBA is also committed to paying a proportionate share of the operating costs of the office space.

12. EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

Employees are covered by a statewide, defined benefit pension plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association of Minnesota (PERA).

Plan Description

All full-time and part-time employees in permanent positions at the MBA are required to participate in PERA. PERA administers the Public Employees Retirement Fund (PERF), which is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plan. This plan is established and administered in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 353 and 356.

PERF members belong to either the Coordinated Plan or the Basic Plan. Coordinated Plan members are covered by Social Security and Basic Plan members are not. All new members must participate in the Coordinated Plan.

PERA provides retirement benefits as well as disability benefits to members, and benefits to survivors upon death of eligible members. Benefits are established by State Statute, and vest after three years of credited service. The defined retirement benefits are based on a member's highest average salary for any five successive years of allowable service, age, and years of credit at termination of service.

Two methods are used to compute benefits for PERF's Coordinated and Basic Plan members. The retiring member receives the higher of a step-rate benefit accrual formula (Method 1) or a level accrual formula (Method 2). Under Method 1, the annuity accrual rate for a Basic Plan member is 2.2 percent of average salary for each of the first 10 years of service and 2.7 percent for each remaining year. The annuity accrual rate for a Coordinated Plan member is 1.2 percent of average salary for each of the first 10 years and 1.7 percent for each remaining year. Under Method 2, the annuity accrual rate is 2.7 percent of average salary for Basic Plan members and 1.7 percent for Coordinated Plan members for each year of service.

For PERF members whose annuity is calculated using Method 1, a full annuity is available when age plus years of service equal 90. Normal retirement age is 65 for Basic and Coordinated members hired prior to July 1, 1989. Normal retirement age is the age for unreduced Social Security benefits capped at 66 for

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
December 31, 2008

Coordinated members hired on or after July 1, 1989. A reduced retirement annuity is also available to eligible members seeking early retirement.

12. EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS - CONTINUED

There are different types of annuities available to members upon retirement. A single-life annuity is a lifetime annuity that ceases upon the death of the retiree--no survivor annuity is payable. There are also various types of joint and survivor annuity options available, which will be payable over joint lives. Members may also leave their contributions in the fund upon termination of public service in order to qualify for a deferred annuity at retirement age. Refunds of contributions are available at any time to members who leave public service, but before retirement benefits begin.

The benefit provisions stated in the previous paragraphs of this section are current provisions and apply to active plan participants. Vested, terminated employees who are entitled to benefits but are not receiving them yet are bound by the provisions in effect at the time they last terminated their public service.

PERA issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for PERF. That report may be obtained on the web at mnpera.org, by writing to PERA at 60 Empire Drive #200, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55103-2088 or by calling (651) 296-7460 or 1-800-652-9026.

Funding Policy

Minnesota Statutes Chapter 353 sets the rates for employer and employee contributions. These statutes are established and amended by the state legislature. The MBA makes annual contributions to the pension plan equal to the amount required by state statutes. PERF Basic Plan members and Coordinated Plan members are required to contribute 9.10% and 6%, respectively, of their annual covered salary in 2008. The MBA is required to contribute the following percentages of annual covered payroll: 11.78% for Basic Plan PERF members and 6.5% for Coordinated Plan PERF members. Employer contribution rates for the Coordinated Plan will increase to 6.75%, effective January 1, 2009. The MBA's contributions to PERF for the years ending December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, were \$15,387, \$13,678 and \$3,907, respectively. The MBA's contributions were equal to the contractually required contributions for each year as set by state statute.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2008

	2008			
	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget
	Original	Final	Actual	
REVENUES				
Contribution from Hennepin County	\$ 2,656,755	\$ 2,656,755	\$ 2,243,368	\$ (413,387)
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Culture and recreation				
Personal services	353,070	353,070	336,933	16,137
Commodities	7,500	7,500	8,650	(1,150)
Contractual services	2,126,685	2,126,685	1,799,805	326,880
Other	166,500	166,500	149,967	16,533
Capital Outlay	3,000	3,000	-	3,000
Total expenditures	<u>2,656,755</u>	<u>2,656,755</u>	<u>2,295,355</u>	<u>361,400</u>
Net change in fund balance	-	-	(51,987)	(51,987)
Fund Balance - Beginning	<u>(124,414)</u>	<u>(124,414)</u>	<u>(124,414)</u>	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ (124,414)</u>	<u>\$ (124,414)</u>	<u>\$ (176,401)</u>	<u>\$ (51,987)</u>

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of these statements.

Minnesota Ballpark Authority
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Notes to Required Supplementary Information
December 31, 2008

Legal Compliance – Budgets

Budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Annual appropriated budgets are adopted for the general fund based on the modified accrual basis of accounting. All annual appropriations lapse at year-end to the extent that they have not been expended.

In accordance with the Grant Agreement Regarding Ballpark Project, the MBA Board must adopt and submit a proposed budget to the Hennepin County Board by August of each calendar year. Any changes in the budget must be within the revenues and reserves estimated or the revenue estimates must be changed by a vote of the Board. Expenditures may not legally exceed budgeted appropriations.



MINNESOTA BALLPARK AUTHORITY
Hennepin County, Minnesota