

TARGET FIELD TO HOST 2014 ALL-STAR GAME?



MBA Vice Chair Michael Vekich talks with Meet Minneapolis President/CEO Melvin Tennant at the press conference announcing the Twins pitch for the 2014 All-Star Game.

Atop the roof of Target Center overlooking the Target Field construction site, Minnesota Ballpark Authority Vice Chair Michael Vekich joined representatives from the Twins, Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis to announce plans to make a pitch to host Major League Baseball's All-Star Game in 2014.

An All-Star game at Target Field would be the first in Minneapolis since 1985.

The All-Star game is the anchor of All-Star Week, a week that attracts tens of thousands of baseball fans from across the United States and the world. The events also attract significant media attention. As many as 2,000 sports and travel journalists cover the events and shine a national spotlight on the city of Minneapolis and the state of Minnesota.

Meet Minneapolis, the city's convention



MBA Vice Chair Michael Vekich and Former Minnesota Twin Tony Olivia look out over the Target Field construction site from atop the roof of Target Center.

and visitor's bureau, says the success of the Republican National Convention proved Minneapolis is capable of hosting such a high profile event.

"We showed repeatedly and consistently that Minneapolis has the infrastructure of hotels, transportation options and entertainment outlets to make the city an attractive site for major meetings and events," Meet Minneapolis President and CEO Melvin Tennant said. "A successful pitch and win for the All-Star Game could potentially mean more than \$50 million in economic impact for Minneapolis."

Twins President Dave St. Peter said the team has informed the league office of its desire to host the 2014 All-Star game and will begin the formal process shortly.

Target Field is scheduled to open in 2010.