

Community Planning and Economic Development Media Advisory

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For Immediate Release

North Minneapolis Based Wirth Co-op to Celebrate Grand Opening on Thursday, October 26

Grand Opening to Include Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with Minneapolis Mayor Betsy Hodges, Council Member Blong Yang, Wirth Co-op Board Members and other Special Invited Guests at 4:00 p.m.

WHAT: On Thursday, October 26, Wirth Co-op will officially celebrate the grand opening of its store located at 1835 Penn Ave N, Minneapolis (below The Commons apartments). The celebration will take place from 3:00-6:00 p.m. inside the Wirth Co-op store and across the street on the open lot located at 2200 Golden Valley Road. The event will feature store specials, food samples, music, and raffle prizes.

At 4:00 p.m. an official ribbon cutting ceremony will take place with Minneapolis Mayor Betsy Hodges, Council Member Blong Yang, Wirth Co-op Board Members, store manager Winston Bell, and other special invited guests. Brief comments will follow.

In North Minneapolis, 67,000 residents live over one mile from a single supermarket, making it one of the largest federally-designated food deserts in the country. The idea of the co-op was initiated by a group of residents from Harrison, Bryn Mawr, and Willard-Hay. They first met in 2007 all driven by the same passion and convictions: The need for accessible food, the desire to bring new life into the neighborhood, and the need to boost the local economy.

Wirth Co-op is a true community project made possible by the collaboration of many partners including the City of Minneapolis department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED), Community Reinvestment Fund, Hennepin County, Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC), McKnight Foundation, Shared Capital Cooperative, Sunrise Banks, and Twin Cities LISC. Additionally, the Co-op was supported by over 700 members upon opening.

Wirth hopes to be a great source of neighborhood strength, pride and sustainability. It has already brought more than 10 new full-and-part time jobs to the area in addition to healthy foods.

WHEN: Thursday, October 26, 2017
3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m. Ribbon cutting ceremony and brief comments

WHERE: Wirth Co-op
1835 Penn Ave N
Minneapolis, MN 55411

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