



April 28, 2025

The Honorable Tom Emmer
326 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Strong Support for Infrastructure Funding – Niron Magnetics Expansion in Sartell, MN

Dear Congressman Emmer and Staff,

On behalf of the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation (GSDC), we are writing to express our strong support for the City of Sartell's request for Congressionally Funded Project support to address critical infrastructure needs associated with the expansion of Niron Magnetics.

Niron Magnetics' expansion represents a transformational opportunity for the Greater St. Cloud region and for Minnesota's leadership in clean energy and advanced manufacturing. Niron's pioneering work in sustainable, rare-earth-free permanent magnets strengthens domestic supply chains and brings significant economic development, innovation, and high-quality job creation to our area.

However, this transformative project is contingent upon urgent infrastructure upgrades, including:

- **4th Avenue South Roundabout Reconstruction (\$3.5M):** Reconstruction of the intersection at 4th Avenue and 2nd Street—the primary logistics route to Highway 10/15—necessary to support increased freight traffic generated by Niron's operations.
- **New Force Main Construction (\$7M):** Installation of a redundant sanitary sewer force main between Sartell and St. Cloud to prevent system failures and accommodate the significant increase in demand. Without this, the Niron project would be placed at risk.
- **Water Transmission Line Expansion (\$4.5M):** Installation of transmission lines to meet Niron's long-term water supply needs, enabling future phases of expansion beyond initial operations.

The City of Sartell and the broader Greater St. Cloud region are fully committed to supporting this investment, but the magnitude of required infrastructure improvements exceeds local resources.

Strategic federal investment is vital to ensure Niron's success—and by extension, to strengthen Minnesota's position in the national clean energy and manufacturing economy.

We respectfully urge your consideration and support for these critical infrastructure funding requests. This investment will not only enable the Niron Magnetics project but will also help secure lasting economic, environmental, and strategic benefits for our region and our country.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to the success of Greater Minnesota.

Sincerely,



Joan Schatz

GSDC Board Chair



NeTia Bauman

GSDC President & CEO



Leslie Dingmann

GSDC Business Development Director



April 28, 2025

U.S Representative Emmer
326 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for Infrastructure Funding for Niron Magnetics in Sartell

Dear Representative Emmer;

Please accept this letter as formal indication of the City of St. Cloud's strong support for full funding for the City of Sartell's urgent addition of a sanitary sewer forcemain. This infrastructure improvement is essential to ensuring safe and reliable wastewater service for the entire Sartell community and the new manufacturing facility, Niron Magnetics.

The City of St. Cloud and the City of Sartell have long partnered in the provision of sanitary sewer services to Sartell. Wastewater service is a foundational element of public infrastructure, supporting regional economic growth, environmental stewardship, and public health. We recognize the area-wide significance of Niron Magnetics' groundbreaking investment in clean technology and advanced manufacturing and fully support the economic opportunities this brings. However, we also acknowledge the increased demands this will place on Sartell's wastewater infrastructure.

These demands require strategic and timely upgrades to maintain system capacity, operational efficiency, and environmental responsibility. Investing in this infrastructure is not only crucial to meeting the needs of Niron Magnetics, but also essential to protecting the health, safety, and economic vitality of the entire region.

This project promises to bring high-paying jobs, strengthen domestic supply chains in key industries, and position central Minnesota as a leader in innovation and sustainable manufacturing. As regional partners in delivering this critical service, St. Cloud recognizes both the immense opportunity and the infrastructure resiliency needed to support it.

The City of St. Cloud is proud of its ongoing partnership with the City of Sartell and fully supports the Niron Magnetics project. However, we also recognize the need for additional funding to ensure infrastructure demands are met promptly and effectively. We respectfully urge your support for this vital funding request, which will help build the strong foundation needed for long-term regional success.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of economic development in Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jake Anderson



City of Sartell MN
Anna Gruber
City Administrator
125 Pinecone Road North
Sartell, MN 56377

October 21, 2024

Dear Members of the Sartell City Council,

I am writing to express McGough's support for the Niron Magnetics manufacturing project in Sartell. This transformative initiative stands to bring significant benefits to our community, and I urge the Council to continue championing this important development.

McGough's Roseville headquarters is approximately 4 miles from the pilot plant that Niron operates in its Minneapolis facility. That facility has been touted by local and state officials since it opened and operates as a good neighbor in the Mid-City community of Minneapolis.

One of the most immediate advantages of this project is the increased employment opportunities it will bring. With 175 new jobs initially planned for the region, Niron Magnetics will provide high-quality positions that will directly benefit local residents. These jobs will not only help individuals and families thrive, but they will also strengthen our workforce and enhance economic stability in Sartell and the greater St. Cloud area.

In addition to job creation, Niron Magnetics will fortify our industrial sector. By producing the world's first high-performance, rare earth-free permanent magnets, Niron is positioning itself as a pioneer in the manufacturing of critical components for the green economy. The company's investment in Sartell represents a significant addition to our region's industrial capacity, supporting local businesses and suppliers while fostering innovation in green technologies such as electric vehicles, wind turbines, and energy-efficient electronics.

From an economic development standpoint, the positive impact of this project cannot be overstated. The construction of a 150,000-square-foot facility is only the beginning of Niron's plans for growth, and their presence will attract further investment to our area. According to the Economic Impact Analysis, the construction phase of the project alone will have an economic impact of 217 jobs earning \$19.9 million in Labor Income, \$22.7 million in contribution to GDP, and \$38.3 million in Output to the region. The increased demand for local services, suppliers, and talent will spur additional growth, creating a ripple effect throughout our local economy that will benefit businesses of all sizes.

> Headquarters

Minneapolis-St. Paul

> Offices

Bismarck, ND Dallas-Fort Worth, TX Des Moines, IA Duluth, MN Fargo, ND
Raleigh-Durham, NC Rapid City, SD Rochester, MN Sioux Falls, SD St. Cloud, MN

Beyond these immediate economic impacts, this project will enhance the reputation of Sartell and the greater St. Cloud region as a desirable place to do business. The decision by Niron Magnetics to establish its first full-scale manufacturing plant here, after evaluating more than 75 potential sites, speaks volumes about the attractiveness of our community. Our focus on supporting business development and fostering a thriving environment for innovation has made Sartell the ideal choice for this groundbreaking company.

McGough wholeheartedly supports the Niron Magnetics project and encourages others to do the same. This endeavor will bring jobs, strengthen local industry, and enhance our community's reputation, all while playing a vital role in the transition to a sustainable energy future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AMcIntosh', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Andy McIntosh
Vice President, Development
McGough



October 24, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the City of Sartell's efforts to work with Niron Magnetics to establish a new facility within the city and be part of a greater regional partnership. As the president of St. Cloud Technical & Community College (SCTCC), I am confident that this initiative will foster strong community partnerships mutually beneficial for the company and our region.

SCTCC has had the honor and privilege of working with community partners to develop both credit and non-credit education to serve the needs of employers in the region. We also provide pathways for youth to explore educational opportunities that prepare them for rewarding and sustainable careers in this region.

Degree and Certificate Programs

SCTCC is growing. As of October 24, 2024, fall semester enrollment is up 14.3% compared to the same time last year. That growth is taking place in both our technical and liberal arts programs, including in our manufacturing programs. SCTCC offers programs in CNC & Advanced Machining, Mechanical Design Engineering Technology, Energy, Instrumentation & Process Control, Mechatronics, Robotics & Automation, and Welding.

All of our technical programs have active advisory boards. We would welcome Niron Magnetics inclusion and engagement on our boards. Members provide information to our faculty to ensure our curriculum remains up-to-date and meets the needs of employers. Many of our technical faculty also seek opportunities to work in their industry to keep their skills up-to-date.

The College's Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC) opened this past year with state-of-the-art equipment such as a 3D metal printer, FANUC robots, and a water jet cutter all situated in a makerspace. The project is the result of a community partnership response to enhance economic development in the area of manufacturing. Today, our manufacturing programs are using the space and equipment to refresh the training students receive and offering workforce training programs to those in the industry.

Non-credit Workforce Development

We work with our community partners to provide non-credit, ongoing education that supports our local workforce. Our vision for the AMC is to expand these offerings to support upskilling and help our local workforce remain competitive. Some recent examples include:

- **DeZURIK:** We are providing DeZURIK with a workforce development program to help fill their need for A-Level Machinists while also providing their current employees with an opportunity for career growth within the company. The program covers print reading, mill operations, lathe operations, and hands-on practical experience working on projects.

- Nahan: This training program was developed for maintenance technicians. A faculty member developed an Electrical Skills Assessment Test to help assess technicians' current skills. The initial program focused on basic troubleshooting skills needed for technicians to be prepared for equipment breakdowns, including understanding testers, voltages, resistance, ohms, etc. The second program involves troubleshooting and the instructor will use SCTCC's lab equipment to place faults in the equipment and work with the techs to identify the faults by utilizing basic skills covered in the first program.

Partnering to Reach the Future Workforce

The College partners with the community to ensure future generations learn more about the many career opportunities they have in the region. We are committed to helping students find fulfilling careers, especially in local industries.

- Vex Robotics: SCTCC employs the VEX coordinator and partners with business, industry, and community partners for VEX Robotics, a global team-based robotics program for elementary school through college students that includes over 400 teams in the State of Minnesota. These engaging programs offer a direct response to workforce and industry needs with participants more likely to consider studying science, technology, engineering, art, and math beyond high school. SCTCC is proud to sponsor and coordinate the VEX state championship in St. Cloud bringing over 2,000 VEX team members, coaches, and families to our community over four days.
- CareerOne: SCTCC hosts and supports the CareerOne program, which introduces youth to career pathways they might not otherwise learn about. The students can choose a track, one of which focuses on construction and manufacturing, to explore career opportunities.
- EPIC is another community partnership the College is proud to support. Every year, thousands of high school students come to SCTCC's campus. Last year, we had 4,200 students from 30 local school districts in our hallways interacting with employers from many career fields, including manufacturing. Activities are organized into clusters. Our Manufacturing & STEM cluster included thirteen industry partners, MN DEED, and St. Cloud State University. Students received hands-on demonstrations with robotics, 3D printing, welding, and other manufacturing-related skills.

We believe that the establishment of Niron Magnetics in the City of Sartell will create new opportunities for collaboration, job creation, and economic development. Sartell, and the Greater St. Cloud Region, are eager to partner with Niron Magnetics to ensure a smooth and successful integration into our community. Together, we can achieve great things.

SCTCC looks forward to the opportunity to welcome Niron Magnetics to our community and to work together toward a prosperous future.

Sincerely,



Lori Kloos, President

lkloos@sctcc.edu

320-308-5017

Rick Miller
Mayor
City of Waite Park
19 13th Ave N
Waite Park, MN 56387
Rick.Miller@ci.waitepark.mn.us
320-252-6822
08/01/2024

Dear Business Representing Project Maxwell,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the City of Sartell's efforts to attract the business representing Project Maxwell to establish a new facility within the city and be part of a greater regional partnership. As the Mayor of the City of Waite Park, I am confident that this initiative will foster strong community partnerships that will be mutually beneficial for your company and our region.

The Greater St. Cloud Region is renowned for its collaborative spirit and commitment to building robust community partnerships. Here are some key reasons why our region is the ideal location for your operations:

1. **Collaborative Business Environment:** Sartell is known for its supportive and cooperative business community. Local businesses, educational institutions, and government entities work together to create a business-friendly environment that encourages growth and innovation.
2. **Educational Partnerships:** Sartell has strong relationships with local educational institutions, including colleges and vocational training centers. These partnerships ensure a steady pipeline of skilled workers and opportunities for workforce development, tailored to meet the specific needs of manufacturing operations.
3. **Supportive Local Government:** Our local government is dedicated to fostering economic development through strategic partnerships with businesses. The City of Sartell offers streamlined permitting processes and are committed to providing the necessary resources and assistance to help your business thrive.
4. **Community Engagement:** The residents and organizations in Sartell are deeply committed to community engagement and support. We have a track record of successful public-private partnerships that enhance the quality of life and economic prosperity for all stakeholders.
5. **Quality of Life:** Sartell offers a high quality of life with excellent schools, healthcare facilities, recreational opportunities, and a safe, welcoming community. This makes it an attractive place for employees to live and work, fostering a sense of belonging and long-term commitment to the area.

6. **Shared Vision for Growth:** The City of Sartell is united in its vision for sustainable growth and economic prosperity. By choosing our city, the business representing Project Maxwell will join a community that values partnership, innovation, and results.

We believe that the establishment of your facility will create new opportunities for collaboration, job creation, and economic development. Sartell, and the Greater St. Cloud Region, is eager to partner with you to ensure a smooth and successful integration into our community. Together, we can achieve great things.

Thank you for considering the City of Sartell as the location for your new facility. We look forward to the opportunity to welcome you to our community and to work together towards a prosperous future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rick Miller', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rick Miller
Mayor
City of Waite Park

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Rick Miller
Mayor
City of Waite Park



October 28, 2024

NeTia Bauman, CEO & President
Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation
501 West St. Germain St.
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Anna Gruber, City Administrator
City of Sartell
125 Pinecone Road North
Sartell, MN 56377

RE: Niron Magnetics – Letter of Support

Dear NeTia and Anna,

On behalf of BCI Construction, Inc. of Sauk Rapids, MN, I would like to official state our support for the development and construction of the new Niron Magnetics facility in Sartell, MN. We believe this development and future employer will extremely enhance the economic engine of Sartell and Central Minnesota at large. We also believe we need to, as a community, support the project as much as feasibly possible. In this brief letter, we will identify that what we feel are positive economic outcomes of Niron Magnetics residing in Central Minnesota, address are few architectural concerns that may arise, and lastly discuss future impacts of Niron residing in our community.

The economic impact of a project like this is vast; almost all of which we feel are positive. First and foremost, a new manufacturing process endorsed by the US Department of Energy, the University of Minnesota, and the state of Minnesota, has chosen Sartell as a partner and future home of this project and operation. There will be a projected \$150M invested into this area for the construction of infrastructure, building, and equipment. There will be jobs created, housing expanded, and will prove that Sartell, and Central Minnesota, are committed to bringing working class jobs further into our community.

Regarding the architectural consideration of the buildings and site, some people might fret over the design and future construction of the site due to the perceived understanding of manufacturing spaces. However, in today's market, so much of this is debunked. The buildings and site, while economically built, are designed with a large amount of input, code, and consideration from the operator to the neighbors. Where the building lands on the site will be considerate of natural terrain, buffers, security, and traffic flow. The building's construction will utilize screens, communications, and modern construction design while considering things like product, color, safety, and cleanliness. No longer are manufacturing facilities seen as "eye sores," rather places of inspiration, safety, and cleanliness. The community will be proud of the end design, and will have many natural features, be safe for the community and Niron's employees, and be a steward of a greener world.

Lastly, I think the development of this project means something particularly special. We are large advocates of Sartell the community in the form of coaching, philanthropic funding, and endorsement of important projects. I feel this company will bring many sciences, technology, engineering, and



mathematics (STEM) courses to life, and sustainably lift the people in our community for generations to come. Incredibly smart people will move into our community and start training (and inspiring) existing people to learn more, understand more, and develop more. When you see the list of companies that are endorsing this company and project (i.e. US Dept. of Defense, General Motors, Volvo, Stellantis, Magna, Allison Transmissions, Samsung, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community), you begin getting inspired about what our children can and will learn, and likely eventually lead. This project means generational impact to not only make our community a “player” in this type of manufacturing, engineering, and technology, but quite possibly a leader.

In conclusion, this project has many positive impacts. While this will change our landscape, the conversations that I have had with the community leaders, policy makers, and others supporting the project, I believe stewardship is in place to make this an outstanding outcome for our community. It will have a positive impact on our region, our state, and (quite frankly) our nation (and beyond). I believe the world is just beginning to take notice of central Minnesota’s impact, and Niron was wise to select Sartell. As a local contractor in the central Minnesota area employing almost 100 employees, we see the amazing power of our collective communities, and we strongly feel we should collectively support Niron Magnetics calling Sartell, MN home for a long time to come.

Sincerely,

Ryan Cross, President & CEO
BCI Construction, Inc.

Kurt Hunstiger
Mayor
City of Sauk Rapids
250 Summit Ave North
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379
khunstiger@ci.sauk-rapids.mn.us
(320) 290-7110
8-1-2024

Dear Business Representing Project Maxwell,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the City of Sartell's efforts to attract the business representing Project Maxwell to establish a new facility within the city and be part of a greater regional partnership. As the Mayor of the City of Sauk Rapids, I am confident that this initiative will foster strong community partnerships that will be mutually beneficial for your company and our region.

The Greater St. Cloud Region is renowned for its collaborative spirit and commitment to building robust community partnerships. Here are some key reasons why our region is the ideal location for your operations:

1. **Collaborative Business Environment:** Sartell is known for its supportive and cooperative business community. Local businesses, educational institutions, and government entities work together to create a business-friendly environment that encourages growth and innovation.
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6. **Shared Vision for Growth:** The City of Sartell is united in its vision for sustainable growth and economic prosperity. By choosing our city, the business representing Project Maxwell will join a community that values partnership, innovation, and results.

We believe that the establishment of your facility will create new opportunities for collaboration, job creation, and economic development. Sartell, and the Greater St. Cloud Region, is eager to partner with you to ensure a smooth and successful integration into our community. Together, we can achieve great things.

Thank you for considering the City of Sartell as the location for your new facility. We look forward to the opportunity to welcome you to our community and to work together towards a prosperous future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kurt Hunstiger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kurt Hunstiger
Mayor
City of Sauk Rapids



08/01/2024

Dear Business Representing Project Maxwell,

I am writing to express my support for the City of Sartell's efforts to attract the business representing Project Maxwell to establish a new facility within the city and be part of a greater regional partnership. As the Mayor of St Cloud, I am confident that this initiative will foster strong community partnerships that will be mutually beneficial for your company and our region. The Greater St. Cloud Region is renowned for its collaborative spirit and commitment to building robust community partnerships.

I believe that the establishment of your facility will create new opportunities for collaboration, job creation, and economic development. The St. Cloud Region is eager to partner with you to ensure a smooth and successful integration into our community. Together, we can achieve great things.

Thank you for considering the City of Sartell as the location for your new facility. We look forward to the opportunity to welcome you to our community and to work together towards a prosperous future.

Sincerely,

Dave Kleis

Mayor, City of St. Cloud



SARTELL HIGH SCHOOL

3101 Pinecone Road North
Sartell, MN 56377
p 320.656.0748
f 320.656.5296
isd748.org/SHS

September 30, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

Sartell-St. Stephen Public Schools is excited for the opportunity to partner with Niron Magnetics as they establish a manufacturing operation in the city of Sartell. Students at Sartell High School have long enjoyed the benefit of community and industry partnerships because of the strength of our Central Minnesota community and the dedication of our incredible instructors.

Currently, SHS students increase their Career and College Readiness through multiple experiences enhanced with partnerships. Students in our Construction trades courses have built numerous structures commissioned by area partners providing real-life experiences, culminating in the building, every year, of a Habitat for Humanity home. Our manufacturing courses have partnered with area companies to not only experience industry in action but also bring new and relevant technologies and equipment into our school labs. Small engines and automotive classes utilize relevant tools and technology as well as opportunities to travel to existing automotive operations. These partnerships have consistently opened doors for Sartell graduates, providing direct pathways to internships and employment in their chosen fields.

We look forward to our students being able to learn from, with and through a partnership with Niron Magnetics. We anticipate providing instruction with lessons highlighting the chemistry (real life application) as well as the renewable and clean manufacturing processes of Niron as an emphasis of taking care of our environment. We hope to have the opportunity for our students to see, either through the classroom visits with Niron personnel or visits to the plant technology in action and the multiple career pathways demonstrated. Our Robotics team is eager to partner with Niron as they continue a tradition of success and innovative learning.

Students at Sartell High School have long benefited from the partnerships formed in our community. Niron Magnetics can be an additional, and significant, addition to the team in our community and we appreciate any support provided to make their establishment a reality.

Sincerely,

Michael Rivard
Superintendent

Luke Miller
Instructor

Nick Phillips
Instructor

Joseph Schulte
Instructor

Shayne Kusler
Principal