

Suggestions for Betsy Hodges letters and emails

NOTE: Until 1/2/14, she is Mayor-Elect Hodges. As of 1/2/14 she will be Mayor Hodges

Email address: betsy.hodges@minneapolismn.gov

Postal address: Room 307, 350 South 5th St., Minneapolis MN 55415

Telephone: (612) 673-2213

1. Congratulate her on her election as Mayor and wish her well in the new role!
2. Thank her for supporting the Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra and supporting an end to the lockout.¹
3. Give reasons why ending the lockout is important to you. ***Make this specific and personal to yourself.*** For example, you miss the concerts, you care about the detrimental business impact of lockout, you care about the cultural reputation of the city, you are concerned about MOA financial mismanagement and disastrous MOA leadership, you are unhappy about tax dollars spent/Hall not being used not for intended purpose, you are interested as a musician or someone in the music industry, etc.
4. Ask her to do anything she can to help end the lockout and get the two parties back to the negotiating table.
5. Consider mentioning the importance of bringing about a change of MOA leadership.
6. Ask her to help make sure that the MOA is totally in compliance with the terms of the City Lease & Use Agreement.²
7. Ask the City to take control of Orchestra Hall if possible and get the orchestra playing in the hall again.
8. Thank the City for the recent letter to MOA³ that asks for more details about MOA's plans and financial projections. Ask her to help keep that effort going.
9. Consider expressing concern about representations made to the City and State to secure the bonding money, the ability of MOA to repay the City bonds and the impact on the City's ability to repay the State and/or the City's bond ratings.

FINAL NOTE: Save Our Symphony MN does not support any political candidate or party.

¹ <http://www.betsyhodges.org/blog/2013/betsys-statement-minnesota-orchestra-lockout/>;
[http://www.journalmpls.com/news-feed/ellison-hodges-call-on-mn-orchestra-management-to-end-lockout](http://www.journalmpls.com/news-feed/ellison-hodges-call-on-mn-orchestra-management-to-end-lockout;);
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NLIgX6io8k>

² A copy of the agreement is available here: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/h8fqvjgndvestu7/Tab%2044.pdf>. It is a long legal document, however the "Purpose" of the City/MOA arrangement is stated in Section 1(b) (p. 56 of the PDF) and city oversight is described in Section 9 (p. 10 of the PDF).

³ <http://www.minnpost.com/arts-culture/2013/12/tough-city-letter-asks-moa-detail-its-2014-orchestra-hall-plans>